Volume One

Part 2

Chapter One
1843 - 1850
Typed copies

Bancroft Papers.

Part 2 of Old Volume
One

The old Volume One of Bancroft Papers was dismantled in order to add new material, especially a section of photo-copies. The first page in this volume is numbered 207 indicating a direct continuation of similar material which ended on 206 in the preceeding volume.

Table of Contents

We have assigned the same page number for the photo-copy as that of the typed copy. So if one has read the typed copy on page 100 he SHOULD wonder if that copy portrays the words, the form and the meaning of the author. Turn then to page PC-100 in the photo-copy section. We do not have photo-copies of all of the originals but we have most of them. The early papers are on "fools cap" which is 8" by 13", legal size. These had to be reduced to 8½" by 11" which adds to the difficulty in reading them, but with a reading glass most can be read, at least in part.

If the PC or photo-copy number fails to lead to an original remember that these documents are in chronological order so the date on the typed copy can usually be found among the originals.

It is nearly impossible for a skilled typist to avoid correction of punctuation, spelling and other errors. In doing so the value of the document is impaired. READ PHOTO-COPIES!!

A Bancroft Compendium
of Facts, Fiction and Falsehoods

My son recently apologized for questioning an assertion of mine. I took him to task, not for doubting, but for his hesitancy to challenge what I had written. Historians must question everything they hear or read. The printed word is peculiarly deceptive. Once printed, an error gains a degree of immortality and may be repeated many times.

The purpose of this compendium is to preserve all papers, letters, diaries, Bible records, etc., which came from the old Bancroft home in Harpersville and those of our father, Rev. W. D. Bancroft, whose boyhood saw much of this home. We included a minimum of editorial comment and excluded nothing, not wanting to impose our judgments and prejudices on others.

No matter how one tries to copy verbatim, words, meaning and form often are changed. The illiterate style of Melinda (Crofut) Martin was peculiarly difficult to copy, for a skilled typist can hardly refrain from using capitals, punctuation and correct spelling and, in so doing, detracts from a valued record of a time when girls often received little formal education. We have included a section of photocopies which will make it possible to see the original to confirm its style and content. PLEASE READ PHOTO-COPIES!

Family records are especially burdened with errors. Genealogists prefer official records, but these are not infallible. For example, if in doubt, a census enumerator was required to spell a name the way it sounded; so, our name has been spelled Barcroft, Bankroft, Bencroft, Bancrost, Bancraft, and one enumerator with a German name spelled it Bankruff. Yet, one must be most careful when accepting what appears to be such a corruption. In the Birdsall literature, an author assumed that Bardwell was a corruption of Birdsall. It was not until this interpretation was in print that it was discovered that Bardwell was a correct family name, and was

in no way related to Birdsall. Official records are not without errors.

A frank falsehood, or was it poetic license, is to be found in an epitaph written by the English poet, Thomas Bancroft. It was written for his elder brother, emigrant John, as follows:

> You sold your lands the lighter hence to
> go to foreign coasts,
> Yet fate would have it so, you ne'er New
> England reached,
> But went with them that journey toward
> New Jerusalem.

This was published in 1639, but John arrived safely in New England in 1632 and died five years later in 1637. The content suggests that this was written before the author knew of John's safe arrival, and certainly before he knew of John's death. Why was it written? We will venture a theory later. Its meaning has been debated for more than three centuries, but falsehood it appears to be.

Copied records cannot be trusted. I once turned to my trusted bookkeeper and asked her if she knew anything about the bulrushes, common causes of hayfever. She left the room without comment, returned with a Bible, and observed that "If you were better acquainted with this book, you would know comething about these plants." This was good for a chuckle. When I opened the Bible, I found myself looking at the record of the marriage of the Roy Reeds of Palmyra, which bore the signature of my father, Rev. W. D. Bancroft. I was delighted, for this was his first marriage ceremony as a Baptist minister. And to think that it came to me by sheer accident, for this volume was found on the street.

My pleasure was short-lived for, as she pointed out, this Bible was closed with a zipper and there were no zippered Bibles in 1902. This, then, was a copy from an older Bible. The forgery of my father's signature would have been a credit to a professional. It was a convincing

reproduction of a signature I knew very well. The accuracy of this copy I can confirm, but copies must be suspect, for they often contain errors.

Frank errors occur too often. In the literature of the Demarest family, the death and burial of Captain John Demarest is reported as having occurred in New Orleans. But, in this volume, we reproduce the Captain's navigator's log in which his death is recorded as occurring in West Indies waters, and that he was given "a decent burial" on the small Dutch Island of St. Estatia. The first report is wrong.

John Kermott Allen was the author of a most ambitious history of all the descendants of Lt. Thomas Bancroft. This appeared in successive chapters in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register of 1942. But, when he had finished, it was necessary to add two more chapters to correct more than 100 errors; inaccuracies, mostly of others who provided family records on his request. Family records frequently contain errors.

Letters and diaries may be very valuable when written at the time of an event by an eyewitness, but they may contain little more than hearsay and gossip.

Words may be confusing. Meanings may change with locale. In the West, we use the word village as they do in the East, but we use town to mean a larger village, while the East has a quite different usage. They use the word town to designate what we would call a township. The town (township) in the East remains a viable governmental unit, while in the West the township functions have been taken over by the county, and remains only useful to surveyors when describing real estate.

Town (township) government was a development of colonial times, and was designed to meet a problem peculiar to that era. All judges in colonial courts were appointed by the crown. Their first loyalty was to the king. Since Puritans were looked upon as disloyal, they could hardly get a fair trial in these courts. A case in point was that of a Mrs. Martin,

who was accused of practicing witchcraft. She was tried before a jury of her peers, who found her innocent. The judge, however, dismissed the jury, found her guilty, and she was hanged, leaving a husband and a family of children. Of course, such rank injustice fueled the spirit of rebellion.

To avoid appearing before prejudiced judges, the colonists in the Dedham Covenant outlined a method for resolving disputes without going to the English courts. Out of this, in part, grew town (township) government. Among the elected town officials was a Justice of the Peace who, being one of them and elected by them, could resolve many problems without prejudice. The West, being settled after our revolution, has had no such problems, so township government has all but disappeared.

For many reasons, the search for truth never ends. What appears to be true today may be found only partly true or not true at all tomorrow. Historians must expect their assertions to be challenged. For those who would differ with me, I would say, as did Sir Thomas Browne (1605-1682):

> "I could never divide myself from any man upon the difference of an opinion, or be angry with his judgment for not agreeing with me in that from which, perhaps within a few days, I should dissent myself."

Paul M. Bancroft.

Harpursville, N.Y.
March 7, 1843

Dear Sir,

William requested me to write you respecting some siding for the place. I went to see Asa Lord on Saturday and found he can have 900 feet of one of his neighbors and he has a few feet at home, for lining of his floor, so that it will be dry and he thinks he can obtain the remainder of another neighbor so that William can come down immediately. I would state to him also that another, Robert Demarea has about 1400 feet of seasoned siding which he will sell but I do not say that Lord can obtain them. Our meeting continues Covenant meeting next Saturday. We suffered tremendously from cold coming home. Laura, Oscar and Birdsall are all down with the nettle rash, but getting better.

Yours, et.
John D. Bancroft.

Henry P. Birdsall
Otego, Otsego Co. N.Y.

Nettle rash in March would be most unusual. What he means is a scarlatinaform rash. This may be a mild scarlet or German measles or other mild infectious erythema.

Mar. 5, '43
Hamilton University.

Samuel Sanford Martim, divinity student
to his father
see PC - 216

Harpursville, N.Y.
April 19, 1843

Elder Chauncey Darby
Sir,

Elder Miller has been preaching to the church of Colesville of which I am a member. I have heard that you were Secretary to a meeting held some four years ago on Elder Miller's account. Now Elder Noble has been informed that Elder Miller was silenced by said meeting,-------- If you will be so good as to state the facts -------- you will oblige.

yours etc.
J. D. Bancroft

Colesville, N.Y.
Sept. 27, 1843

At the call of the Baptist Church of Christ in Colesville, Broome County, New York a council convened at the call of said church, for the purpose of examining and if deemed advisable of ordaining to the work of the Gospel.

Delegates from the following churches were present,-

Colesville	G. Kittles, J, Marsh, E. Patrick, Sornberger, Elder A. P. Mason,
Binghamton	Deacon J. Condon, Bro. Joseph Condon, A.C. Angel & O. Parsons
South Bainbridge	Eld. L. Peck, Eli Seely, H. Sears
Coventry	Eld. A. Parker, Deac. E. K. Carpenter Jesse Johnson
Central Greene	Bro. Ransom Wilkins
I -st.	Eld. RVA. Washburn, Bro. Roe, G. Sherwood.
Windsor	Bro. Asa Higley, Eld. J.J.Mills

to sit with Council

Council organized by choosing Elder Levi Peck, Moderator and Elder A. Guy Clerk

Prayer by moderator.

Delegate from Central Greene church objecting to sit with the Council was released by request.

Resolved the ministering bretheren present be invited to sit with the Council. Deacon Samuel Martin then presented to the Council for examination the candidate, who proceeded to give a relation of Christian experience, call to the ministry and views of theology. After which the Council retired to the School house for deliberation.

(The candidate was Samuel Martin's son)

After prayer full deliberation it was unanimously resolved that we proceed to set appart by ordination Brother S.S. Martin

so the work of the Gospel Ministry which was performed in the following order, viv., Eld. A. P. Mason preached an impressive discourse from Psalms 119; 128, subject, "The supremacy of the Scriptures". Eld. J.J.Mills offered the Consecration Prayer, and layed on hands with Eld. Aaron Parker, A.P.Mason & R.A. Washburn. Eld. Lem Peck addressed the church and congregation. Benediction by the candidate.

Levi Peck Moderator

Albert Guy, Clerk

North Norwich, N.Y.
Dec. 5, 1843

Mr. John D. Bancroft
Harpursville, N.Y.
Dear Brother Bancroft,

In reply to your communication I can say but little at present and that little not as the Moderator of the Ministerial Conference. I should be pleased to visit Harpursville and may possibly do so in the near future. Though I am at present negotiating with another church. In regard to Elder Miller I can say nothing except by report. He rings in this part of the world like a cracked "earthen vessel". I confess I have my doubts about his standing as a gospel minister and I am a little surprised that the bretheren in Colesville have been willing to sit under his administration of word and ordinance so long, knowing at the same time his standing was at least doubtful. As I am informed by Mr. Darby that he sent your self a copy of the proceedings of a certain council called some four years ago to look into his case. Nothing was done or said about him by our Conference at a conference. After the sermon in the evening the Conference and some others retired to the basement and a fine interchange of feelings and views took place. If I recalled rightly no resolutions were passed and nothing done by way of voting except to defer the matter to the day previous to the Semi Annual meeting. Which meeting will occur on the 28th at Oxford. What is done respecting him will of course occur on the 27th. It was thought best to investigate his case and if it was thought that he was worthy of an honorable standing as a minister we certainly will be disposed to give it to him and to sustain his character as such. But if he is not worthy of such standing he will undoubtedly be published to the world as every unworthy minister should be. I cannot be positive but I think Bro. Martin did not say a labor had been commenced with Bro. Wilcox. For entering a complaint to the Smithville church

against Bro. Van Horn I believe he said distinctly that no labor had been taken up with Bro. Wilcox, nor any other one in your church touching this matter. I do not know that Bro Martin did or said anything improperly at our conference. My own private fears are that Elder Miller is not in good standing as a minister or a member in any regular Baptist church. I have regreted that the Colesville church employed him. My opinion is that you had better defer any action in the case until you know more about the matter. Do not be hasty. Curb all your unpleasant feelings until you find out who or whether any of you are in the wrong, and then the right pursue. I will not vindicate Bro Van Hornes course. But I think if Bro Wilcox had known more about Bro Miller he would not have made the complaint to the Smithville church.

But hold on Bretheren do not ignite your matches yet for I hope the truth may come out. I trust that will satisfy all. Send over as full a delegation as you please to meet the bretheren at Oxford on the 27th. Pray about it till then. I think the crooked places will be made straight and rough places plains. Tell Bro Martin and Wilcox and all the rest to keep quiet. Do not stir up the "muss" among yourselves yet for I fear you will get yourselves into difficulty.

Yours affectionately
Ezra Dean.

Knoxville, Ill.
Jan. 2, 1844

Deacon Samuel Martin,
Colesville, Broome County, N.Y.

Dear Father,

By the merciful dispensation of an all wise providence I am alive and well. My health has been good since I left home.----

I have just rendered my first quarterly report, the date of my commision being altered from Nov. 1 to October 1. (He is serving the Baptist Home Mission Society to the frontier in Ill.) Having preached 34 sermons

2 Temperance addresses.
8 Prayer meetings.
2 Church meetings.
2 Signatures on temperance pledges.
2 common schools visited.
400 pages of tracts distributed
64 Religious visits.
100 miles travelled.

I have planned a trip to Genesee, McPherson and Davenport which will take me 50 miles North of here. The Mormons and Catholics are thick in this region and the Camphellites are plenty.

Five miles from here is the Galesberg College under the care of H. H. Kellog formerly of the Young Ladies Domestic Seminary of Clinton, N.Y.

Pray for me and the destitute west. I am alone here. There is no Baptist minister here to help me. Yet I am not discouraged. Since I came here I have seen but one minister who is devoting his time to the ministry.------

Your affectionate son
Samuel Sanford Martin

Samuel and Melinda (Crofut) Martin

Hapursville, N.Y.
Febr 17,1844

Eld. J.J.Miller,
Dear Brother,

The above are the records of a special meeting of the church. What we want is for you to make suitable arrangements with proper Bretheren and churches as to time and place of holding said Council,------, and I doubt not but that we shall be able to give you a fair and impartial trial which we are determined to do, God being our helper. We have stated to the church that we are pursuing this course by the advice of Elders Chamberlain and Berry and they expect those elders will be consulted in their churches and those churches invited to attend said Council.---- Try to be here for our next meeting at Bro. Bancroft's on Febr. 29, 1844.

Elias Patrick, Moderator
J.D.Bancroft, Clerk

in copy book #2

Harpursville, N.Y.
March 1, 1844

Elders Chamberlain and Perry,
Dear Bretheren,

We have been informed by Elder J.J.Miller that you, one or both of you, had advised him to obtain a call of Council to investigate his standing as minister - and Brother in Christ - and he complains that a gospel course has not been pursued with him - and that he earnestly wishes an impartial investigation - the bretheren have presented his letter to the church - as was expected some objections were made to its reception on account of some alleged difficulties existing - the church then came to the conclusion to receive his request for the call of a Council and to convene that council for the investigation as should be found expedient - with the understanding that such meeting at or near the scene of a previous meeting of inquiry concerning him as possible. - now what we especially wish is that the investigation can be so managed so as to cut off all complaint as to an exparte trial - or that there be no opportunity for the censure of an attempt to infringe upon the independence of the churches. We wish you bretheren would act with us and advise us and Bro. Miller so as to wipe away the reproche cast upon the Baptists as being disposed to <u>bite and devour each other.</u> Let Elder Miller, if in error, be brought to see it and confess - if found unworthy - and put down - but if nothing worthy of bonds or of death be found against him - let him go free and so be useful in the vineyards of his Master. ----------we should endeavor to restore-----without any wish to wound or afflict, but simply to heal.-----

J.D.B.

Oxford
March 6, 1844

Mr. Harry Martin
Clerk of the Baptist Church,
Harpursville, N.Y.

Dear Brother,

In my absence during this day your letter addressed to Eld. Chamberlain and myself and also yours addressed to the Baptist Church of this place were left at my house.

The more I have heard of Eld. Miller's difficulty from himself and others the more reluctant I have felt to have anything to do with it. But I am aware that justice to him and the cause of our blessed Redeemer requires that something be done. I understand that eleven churches have been written to though I know not what churches. I should think to remove all cause for complaint and to wipe off reproach, as you very properly desire, that the party who brought the accusation or charges vs Eld. Miller and the Moderator and Sec. of the Council at Greene should be notified and invited to attend as witnesses.

And if a council can be held in Smithville which will aim for the truth, nothing else, and can have such order and decorum as becomes a Christian body, transacting business for Christ's Kingdom and the Glory of God, I should do all I can with others to remove the wound which has been made by this long standing difficulty.

I advise Brother Miller not to select a Council wholly from among his friends but as far as possible from among those who knew the least about it, or who would least likely to be prejudiced. I am but little acquainted with this section but consider Bro. Bennett, McDonough and Parker of Coventry good counsellors.

Harpursville, N.Y.
April 17, 1844

Bishop John O. Birdsall.

Dear Sir, Your letter of Febr. 14, 1844, Came duly to hand, we read it with sorrow mingled with thanksgiving at the merciful providence in your restoration in part - and that kind and sympathizing friends were provided for your accomodation. I hoped to see your brother Nathan that we might consult and write our mutual sentiments and plans. We had just returned from Otego. Father had been very sick, confined to his bed with a severe cut to his foot and great prostration of his powers - so much so that his life had been despaired of - but was better - We heard from him yesterday by Enoch Copley who resides in Windsor and had been up to Otego. Father was quite comfortable - brother Nathan was better, he had been quite low with an affection of his lungs - But Mary Pierce was no better the probability that she never will get well. Her disease is a female affection producing a disease of the lungs. We have a young son born Nov. 27 (Edward Demarest Bancroft) think he appears as promising as either of our previous boys - we are in usual health except colds - the babe has a severe cold - We think we are enjoying a better state of religious feeling than usual but still we do not come up to our high priviledge. Eld. Earl is with us for a couple of Sabbaths and will probably engage for a year. He is from Syrna, Chenago County. You asked me for advice, I wish I could give it to profit, I have been waiting for an oportunity to consult your brother and friends. I think you had not better undertake business of any kind, but if your health will permit bring your family out here and see what arrangements can be made for your comfort and health and most satisfactory to your family.

24th. I was at Esquire Mannings in Coventry to see Eld Holmes who is sick there with acute rheumatism and there I learned that there was a rumor that your wife was dead. I went to the Spencers but they knew nothing positive but heard it was true. If true how much the heart of our brother bleeds, but not as one without hope. Our first impulse was to go and assist him to convey his orphans to the bosom of his friends. Laura and myself felt not only to sympathize with but to be beneficial to you and yours - If you have any wish make it known to us and to our utmost we will strive to meet it.

J.D.B.

Perrysburgh
May 11, 1844

Mr. Wm. Oscar Bancroft,
Dear Cousin,

It is with heavy heart that I sit down to address you. The rumor concerning mother's death was too true, she died on the fifth of April of measles. Her last sickness was peaceful. Her spirit was calm. She was taken sick two weeks before she died. Her measles were rather long in coming out but after they turned she began to get better, we thought. But, alas, how deceitful are all human appearances. The day before she died she lay stupid nearly all day, in the evening she showed more strength than at any time after her measles came out. What more shall I say. We are in middling good health except for bad colds. Father gains very slowly. We are now boarding out. Give my regards to all my friends.

Your cousin
John A. J. Birdsall

Nephew of Laura Birdsall Bancroft Wm. Oscar's Mother.

Perrysburg
May 18, 1844

Doctor John D. Bancroft.
My dear Brother and Sister,

I received your last letter in five days after mailing. By the same mail I received one from brother Nathan and another from my mother in law. The sentiments of deep felt sympathy expressed in them all were indeed like a balm to my wounded spirit. You have doubtless received long before this full and painful confirmation ot the sad news, concerning the death of my wife. You probably recollect that she supposed herself to have had the measles at her fathers the season she went home with you. Consequently she had no suspicion of the character of her disease until a few days before the fatal issue. Four of the children including the babe were down with the measles at the same time as there mother. Her disease was considered a severe case of bilious pneumonia until the eruption took place. After the turning of the measles we all thought her doing well. On the fatal night of her departure I left her at ten o'clock apprehensive of no immediate danger. Before leaving her I awoke her, spoke with her and felt her pulse. Thought she appeared much better than in the afternoon. About three A.M. the watchers discovered a sudden change and called me. Before I reached her she had ceased to breath. Thus has the desire of my eyes been taken away by one sudden stroke. My heart and house and children are left desolate. My own health tho much improved is still extremely poor. I still regard my life as hanging on a precarious thread. I have been attempting to preach once on the sabbath for two weeks past. I find exercise rather less propicious than I would wish. I have been extremely unwell. I am now living with my orphaned children in my once pleasant but now desolate home. We are boarding at Deacon Ziglers. A kind neighbor has charge of my sweet little babe. My friends continue to manifest the greatest sympathy and kindness. I feel deeply affected by the fraternal kindness which has prompted you to invite my return.

I can see no way to get my children there. If I am soon to die I have a special choice to rest by the side of her with whom I have spent such a portion of my life. It seems to me that death will not divide us. Were it Gods will I would choose to live for my children and to subserve any other purpose He may have in prolonging my days. Yet I have ceased to deeply feel anxious even for my children. He has said, "leave thy fatherless children." I feel to rest in his mercy for them as well as for my own poor soul. I have made known to brother Nathan my wishes concerning my children in case of my removal. I have only to ask now for John to spend a few months with you next year to study arithmetic and penmanship. This has been my design for several years. I had hoped to reciprocate by taking your Oscar to teach him the rudiments of Latin and Greek.

Make mention of us in prayer. Yours in Deep affliction,

John O. Birdsall

Knoxville, Ill. July 12,'44

Dear Friends,

In looking over my memorandum I cannot ascertain that I have written to you since April 25th. I am sorry for this neglect and will try to write oftener in the furture. We have received one from Lois, one from Sidney and Elvira,---, and one from Zada. It was cheering to learn that the church was propering. May the Lord add to it daily,---. Give my respects to Mr. East---. I go to Canton, Fulton County, ILl. to preach the installation sermon for A.Gross, late of Sherbourn, N.Y. I saw brother Gross at Washington,---. This reminds me of one journey to the Association, the distance about 60 miles, roads horrible, got soaking wet 3 or 4 times, got sick and got home alive & lived ever since, though have felt poorly all the time, it has rained all summer yet the crops look better than one could expect under such cercumstances. Wheat is coming in well - harvest is half done,---.

On the evening of the 5th June we had an high power tornado. Terrible indeed is the voice of the Lord,---. In the chariot of the wind. It was unlike to anything I ever saw before. The earth seemed to tremble on its foundations. Houses, fences, horses, wagons were rolling in every direction. Nearly all the chimneys in town were levelled down to the roof. Houses and stores were unroofed. One proud two story house was blown into a pile of oven wood, not excepting the lower floors, but most miraculously a woman and four children, thre of them were up stairs, escaped with their lives suffering only a few bruises.

Knoxville, Ill.
Aug. 18, 1844.

Miss Mary A. Martin,

Colesville, Broome Co., N.Y.

Dear Mary Ann,

I am sick, you can tell by my hand writing. I was called to go to Charleston, 22 miles away, to assist in the organization of a church. --- I was taken violently sick and could not go.

Aug. 21, am better. Have a severe head ache.

Affairs at Nauvoo are quiet. (Mormon) A successor to the Prophet has not been elected.

The Democrats carried the presidential ellection. I do not care about politics but will not vote for a slave owner or duelist. The black laws here are much worse than in New York. The law supposes every black a fugitive and imposes a fine for harboring, comforting or feeding and black person who does not have "free papers".

I have not indulged my poetry. There isn't much poetry in this country especially when it rains. The sloughs and the mud bottoms of the creeks are so far removed from the beautiful. Our most poetic objects are our ,arge peaches, wild grapes and black berries. At times I have felt the symptoms of inspiration, but then the keen bite of a prairie mosquito brings me back to earth.

Sometimes I think I might bemore useful with a helpmate to labor and pray with me. You remember old Omar the son of hagan and his difficulty in finding a woman. This is my predicament. In all my wanderings I have not found a girl of the right age, with pius soul, a kind heart and a strong mind and a sound body. I am bashful and more inclined to slip through life edgewise lest I should come in contact with some one.. Nervous, ricketty brained, selfish as I am, I claim the right to secure a wife with a large healthy soul in a large healthy body with a large healthy mind. But I shall probably be cheated. On no account let this letter be seem by the family.

Good bye,

Sanfor (Samuel Sanford Martin)

Mary Ann Martin.

Nov. 21, 1844

This indenture made the 21 of November 1844 between Henry Birdsall and Sallyhis wife of the town of Otego, parties of the first part and John D. Bancroft, party of the second part ---

For the sum of $2,000,00 sell ---.thar parcel of land,---, on the north-easterly side of the Susquehanna River.---. oposit Flax Island,---, 53 acres,---, encumbered by a certain mortgage held by John Birdsall,---, of $2,000.00

Henry Birdsall
Sallu his wife.

Nov. 28, 1844

Wm. Oscar Bancroft attended the Del. Lit. Inst. at Franklin. He attended here at least two years.

Jan. 9, 1845

An indenture between Henry P and Nathan Birdsall for the sum of $800.00.

Clears the title

Dr. J.D.Bancroft then retired from the practice of medicine in Harpursville, because of his ill health,(consumption) and moved onto this Birdsall farm to take care of the elderly parents of his wife and manage the farm. In this environment he experienced a remission of his illness and lived till 1872 He was to live on on this farm for the "natural life of John Birdsall" for an annual rent of $40 and taxes.

Knoxville, Ill.

Deacon Samuel Martin,
Colesville, N.Y.

Dear Friends,

In looking over my memorandum I cannot ascertain that I have written you since April 25th. I am sorry for this neglect. I have received letters from Lois Tate, one from Sidney and Elvira (Sornbergers) and Zada (Zada Martin Rose). Give my respects to Bro. Earl (of the Harpursville church) and tell him I go to Canton, Ill., next Sunday to preach the installation sermon of a ministerial friend, Bro. A. Grop, late of Sherburne, N.Y. Let me tell you of one journey to Association, the distance about 60 miles, roads horrible, got soaking wet three times, got sick and got home alive, since have felt poorly all the time. It has rained all summer. The crops look better than one would expect. Wheat is coming in well, the harvest half done.

On the evening of the 5th of June we had a brush with a tornado. Terrible is the voice of God. The earth trembled. Houses, fences, horses, wagons, and coaches were rolling in every direction. Nearly all the chimneys in town were leveled with the roofs. Houses and stores were unroofed. A frame two story house was blown into a pile of oven wood. Horses were blown from their feet and rolled like wool sack, 40 feet.

You have heard of the deaths of Joe and John Smith. The stories vary somewhat. One is that they were shot by a mob that entered the prison. Another that they were trying to escape through a window and were shot by a guard. We are not expecting wal although there are many mormons here some of whom have just gone to Nauroo.

I am sensible that my health is failing perhaps from the climate, perhaps from hard study, or some other cause. People are expecting it to be very sticky here on account of the water.

The country is so level and the surface so wet and the weather so warm in the daytime and so cold at night that I shall not be surprised if I get the shakes of the ague.

I gathered valerian yesterday. Had an attack of bilious fever a week ago and threw it off with a course of bone set. I went to father Marsh's to be sick and they cured me up first rate. The same day they killed a large timber rattlesnake by their door.

Timber in this country means woods. The land is either timber or prairie. For "yes" you hear "I reckon". For "remember" you "mind".

I think with the greatest prudence I shall come out even with the world at years end. It is doubtful that I will have enough to come home. Clothing is high here. I am about preached out here. But the congregation is full every Sunday. Pray for us. Good bye.

Sanford. (Samuel Sanford Martin)

Otego, Otsego Co., N.Y.

Dear Mother,

It has been a long time since we have seen you and quite a long time since we have heard from you and it has been so long since I wrote you that I think myself much to blame. As the postage on letters is now reduced we have not that for an excuse - and therefore I embrace the first opportunity to write. We are enjoying good health at present, quite a change has taken place in our circumstances since we saw you - Leonard has probably informed you - I have quit the practice of medicine entirely and have gone to reside in Otego and take care of father and mother Birdsall, whilst they live, if we should live so long. Father Birdsall's health is very poor, has not been able to dress himself much of the time for better than a year. Mothers health is pretty good and she is quite smart for one of her age (75 yrs) the 18th of last April. Father is 81 the 9th of November. We are pleasantly situated and enjoy ourselves very well. My health is much better than it was in practice, if I can't make Money. We milk 5 cows and expect another to come in before long. - Make butter principally. Our crops look well except the grass is light - pastures are rather short as it has been too dry - But now we have had a very fine rain which has soaked the ground - We shall be much confined at home and therefore can give no assurance when we can visit you - But we should be glad to see some of you here as soon as consistent. Our fruit is cut off by the frost. I ask you to write soon and after this we will correspond by letter quite often - Say once a quarter and be punctual. I shall write to my Friends in Claverack soon.

J. D. Bancroft

To Mrs. David Bancroft, his mother

Knoxville, Ill.
Jan. 18, 1845.

Dear Friends,

I wish you a happy New Year while you are tilting about in your sleigh. All do fine here in this more sunny clime. Have a fine walking or wheeling as you ever saw in the month of June.

The merry sleigh bells are your music, the drowsy hum of the bee is ours. In New York bright sunny days and frosty nights. True the changes are sudden but we have had nothing resembling winter yet.

Yesterday I spent a social afternoon in a parlor without a stove and found no inconvenience from the cold. In the evening in the same parlor joined two mortal beings together so they can never get apart till they die.

You perhaps think I feel some remorse but this I do not. It is not good for a man that he remain alone. That was not the design of his maker. Some of you will begin to guess those were my notions. Well, what if they are? It makes no difference now that leap year is over and I never got an offer.

George Williams is here. I have asked him to write you.

with love.

Samuel (Samuel Sanford Martin)

Knoxville, Ill.
Jan. 18, 1845

Dear Friends,

I take up my pen to write a long neglected letter. My health is middling. Please ransack my old chest and send me a copy of the verse, "I think of thee". By the way when I think of the old chest let me say it contains a heap of useless number which you would do well to distribute to the poor (I mean the old clothes). I fear the moths will eat them.

Some of the first born whimseys of my brain are in the old chest for which I feel a fatherly solicitude.

Not forgotten and ever respected friends, inclination takes this opportunity to write a few more lines. It is eight years since I have seen any of you except Sanford. (Samuel Sanford Martin) Whom I met one year ago in this place, with whom I spent the last night and after reading some old letters and talking about old times I almost fancied myself back again.

I would like to know if George is the same as he used to be, if so, the answer is this, "the same old six pence over and over". I have heard of the fortunes and misfortunes of your family I left. Am glad to hear that you are all well and, as for myself, I am well and have not been idle. In this far west I have a small farm of 63 acres under cultivation, team and tools to carry it on with and I also have a fine little orchard of 112 trees, but with all this I am not contented or ever expect to be. The cause is probably best known to myself alone. This is one of the best farming countries in the world, but I suppose you have had a description of it long before this, therefore, I will say nothing further except we have many difficulties here to encounter as well as other countries. Perfection is hardly to be found in this world. I yet think of visiting my native country again. If so I may see some of you but not all for I am informed that one who is of your number is no more.

I have yet the purse and also the spanish coin that was given to me while at work for you. I have kept them with the determination not to part with them until I should see you again, if ever. With these few broken and unconnected sentences---. If you should take the trouble to write please direct the letters to Cedar Creek, Warren Co., Ill.

George W. Williams

Jan. 26, 1845.

We the subscribers agree to pay the bearer the sums set opposite our names, in the manner and time specified for the purpose, of erecting a bridge across the Susquehanna River in the town of Otego at or near the farms of Maxwell on the east and John Smith on the west side of said river. ---. (Materials specified)

	cash	stone	labor
Henry P. Birdsall	$5.00,	$25.00	$20.00
John D. Bancroft	5.00	25.00	20.00

Jan. 26, 1845

We the subscribers agree to pay the bearer the sums set opposite our respective names, in the manner and time specified, for the purpose of erecting a bridge across Susquehannah River the town of Otego at or near the farms of Maxwell on the East and John Smith on the West side of said river. Such bridge to be completed in a good and substantial manner by the firwt of Janurary 1846 and all subscriptions for materials and labor which are not paid in at the proper time to the person who shall take this contract shall be considered and here by pledge to be money subscriptions .

	cash	Stone	Labor
Henry P. Birdsall	$5.00	$25.00	$20.00
John D. Bancroft	5.00	25.00	20.00

Another subscription sheet was later prepared.

Otego, Otsego Co., N.Y.
July 1, 1845

Dear Mother,

It has been a long time since we have seen you and quite a long time since we have heard from you and it has been so long since I wrote to you that I think myself much to blame. As the postage on letters is now reduced we have not that for an excuse - and therefore I embrace the first opportunity to write. We are enjoying good health at present, quite a change has taken olace in our circumstances since we saw you - Leonard has probably informed you - I have quite the practice of medicine entirely and have gone to reside in Otego and take care of father and mother birdsall, whilst they live, if we should live so long. Father Birdsealls health is very poor, has not been able to dress himself much of the time for better than a year. Mothers health is pretty good and she in quite smart for one of her age (75yrs) the 18th of last April. Father is 81 the 9th of November. We are pleasantly situated and enjoy ourselves very well. My health is much better than it was in practice. if I can't make Money. We milk 5 cows and expect another to come im before long. - Make butter principally. Our crops look well except the grass is light - pastures are rather short as it has been too dry - But now we have had a very fine rain which has soaked the ground - We shall be much confined at home and therefore can give no assurance when we can visit you - Butwe should be glad to see some of you here as soon as consistent. Our fruit is cut off by the frost. I ask you to write soon and after this we will correspond by letter quite often - Say once a quater and be punctual. I shall write to my Friends in Claverack soon.

J.D.Bancroft

To Mrs. David Bancroft, his mother

July 25, 1845

Henry Outhoudt Demarest,
(father Capt. Demarest first Husband of Catharine Outhoudt)
(she married second David Bancroft.) Her Demarest children are half brothers and sisters of Dr. John Demarest Bancroft)

Dear Brother,

Its a long time since we have seen each other - and whether we ever shall this side of the grave is known only to Him who hath appointed our times and directed our paths from the beginning. I have often calculated to make you a visit. But have been disappointed hitherto. I hope some to effect my wishes this fall or winter. But as I have in addition to the cares of my family, taken on the care of my wife's family who are quite aged and the old gent quite infirm, I do not feel very confident.

Therefore I thought to write you to let you know that I often thought of you, and the more frequent as I have so very few kin. I have no father, mother, brother, sister, uncle, aunt or cousin living. You are the only surviving half brother on my mothers side. Father by his second wife left five sons, one since dead, and a daughter. I have not been to see them since 1840. I was recently looking over some old papers and came across the names of father's family printed and thought I would attach the date of their birth to them and was surprised to find that I had a record of all his children, I had not the date of his birth and death. But I found a letter to our mother stating the death of your father and I thought I would send it to you. But if the wish to know it should intrude upon your mind you would not feel as unpleasant as I did.

Your father died at St. Anestatia, Febr. 18, 1795 and was buried there in a decent manner. I quote this from a letter from New York by Benjamin Van Ordan dated March 28, 1795 and

addressed to Mrs. Catharine Demarest. I also find on a thick leaf of old fashioned paper, which I suppose mother cut out of an old clasp Dutch Bible in which I remember having looked at pictures. The following record is in your fathers hand writing
1779 Nov. 22, was I and my wife Caty, the daughter of Henry Outhoudt married.
1781 May 14, About 5 oclock in the afternoon was my son born called Henry Outhoudt Demarest, baptized the 24th inst. by Rev. John Schaneman. Witnesses Henry Outhoudt and his wife Nettie.
1783 May 19 about 4 oclock in the afternoon was my daughter Nettie born, baptized May 25th.

1800, I was born (John Demarest Bancroft, P.M.B.) May 24th. All of mother's children were born in May.

On the oposite side of the sheet I find the following in the hand of grand father OOthoudt. "1760. Fecember 24th (translated from the Dutch) was I and my wife Nettie the daughter of Martin Van Buren joined in the married state.

1761, Oct. 17, is my wife delivered of a son --- baptized by Rev. Schuneman.

1763 Nov. was my daughter Catharine born and baptized by Rev. Schuneman. Witnesses Volchert Oothoudt and Rachel Van Driesen
1793, Dec. 18, about the eighth hour in the morning Nettie the wife of Hendrick Oothoudt died in the 67th year of her life.

(See the copy of the original for the Dutch version, P.M.B.)

Albany, New York
Aug.29, 1845

Mr. John D. Bancroft,

Dear sir, Being at Clavack a few days since, I had the pleasure of reading your letter, dated July 25th, to my grandfather, Henry O. Demarest, and was requested by the family to answer it. (I am Elsie Anns oldest son, engaged as a clerk in a lumber business here). They were much gratified to hear from you. My grandfather was taken about three weeks since with a severe attack of diarrhea, have been feeble for some months previously, it reduced him very fast. On Friday morning last week I received a letter from father who was at Clavach informing me of his sickness. I reached his residence Wednesday p.m. A letter from my employer called me from his bedside. Last evening I read a letter from mother informing me that he died at 7:30 Wednesday evening, Aug 27th, a few hours after I left. The funeral was to take place today at 11:00 a.m., after which his remains were to be conveyed to Jefferson to repose beside his partners till the arch angels trumpet shall sound. The absence of both members of our firm, S. J. Barnard and son, prevented me from going down. He had been feeble for some time. In the early stages of his terminal illness he was delerious for 15 hours. From that time he was sensible to the last. His cough was severe and at times brought up blood. He lingered along and took very little nourishment, at times refusing everything, at times take a little cold water or at intervals take crackers and tea. He did not speak loud but once after I saw him. It was very difficult to get from him what he wished. His voice was very low and indistinct. It was truly distressing to see him suffering with pain which

sympathizing attentions could not alleviate. He answered our inquiries relative to his willingness to leave this world in the affirative 8 days before his death. He prayed audibly for a half hour or more for his children and so forth. He has we trust exchanged the duties of a Christian soldier on earth for the unfailing laurals of heaven and gone from a place in the vinyard here to a seat at Christ's right hand where sin can no more clog communion with his God. Would be glad to hear from you any time and would be much pleased to have you visit them.

Yours Respectfully,

Henry D. Crane

Knoxville, Ill.
Sept. 2, 1845

Dear Mary, (Mary Ann Martin, his sister)

In imagination, as I read your letter, I saw Lois banging away at the old loom, while the cheeses in lengthening row stretch themselves in the new cheese room. The mixed gray wool with mother treading and sweating at the big wheel all stand out. -----.

I received from the Home Mission Society $60., subscribed locally $100. As to what I need most, it is hardly fair I should trouble you. ---- But as the Master I serve owns all the world I hope to receive from him by some means, a horse, saddle and bridle, a good warm cloak to protect me from the prairie winds, a pair of boots size 7½, vest, Pantaloons, silk handerchief, etc. About your coming; I need your company, watch, care and advice. The west needs your influence as a bold active Christian. Hundreds of ignorant children need your aid as an instructor, thousand straggling wandering urchins call on you to gather them into the Sunday School and point them to the Savior who died for them. You are needed much there and more here. You will not get rich by coming but you may do good. Tell Lois to come with you, this is a better country to live in than New York.

I am about to get married. I know a fine girl, nothing extra, plain good sense, no education, no blandishments, no deceits, no pewter, not a red cent, good form, fine head phrenologically, brim full of love, and best of all a humble Christian. Well? What about it?

I do not know where I shall go another year. I mean to apply as an itinerant in this country.

Dr. Marsh is getting a large practice and we need another botanic in the county. I wish Dr. Nobbs would come on.

Tell Azel to write me a line. I have sent a paper to Irene. I wish father and others would come out.

Its a cold time in religion. Pray for us. Excuse this nervous scrawl and keep it Sub Rosa.

S.S. Martin. (Samuel Sanford Martin)

Memerbs of the Second Baptist Church of
Otego

Joined	Males	Females
1779	John Birdsall	CharlotteeBurdick
1783	Wm. Shepherd	Harriett Birdsall
1779	Wm. H. Birdsall	Tabitha Burdick
1834	Thomas Place	Abigail Burdick
1838	Thomas Burdick	Cynthia Place.
1843	David Yager	Lusanna Pierce
1844	Edmond Emmmons	Mary Birdsall
	Thomas Burdick	Matty Ann Pierce
1845	John D. Bancroft	Eliza Harris
		Laura Birdsall Bancroft
		Rebecca Ann Harris

John Birdsall Jr. died in 1850. At this time Dr. John D. Bancroft sold his interest in the Birdsall farm and moved on a farm near Afton, (later called South Bainbridge). This farm was described as a narrow strip a mile long extending back from the Susquehanna River. It was in this home that Mary Catharine was born and Mrs. Birdsall died. They may have moved for a time to a farm in Greene County, N.Y., but finally moved back to the old home in Harpursville.

Oscar Bancroft, student in Franklin Academy wrote essays on the following subjects.

1. Making good use of time. (The improvement of time)
2. Decision making
3. The native Indian
4. The seasons.
5. A letter to a friedd.
6. Poetry - The Brides Farewell.
7. Poetry - Silver moon
8. On profane language.
9. Poetry - speak Gently
10 Justyfication of Hanging murderers.
11. Avarice.
12 Benevolence.
13 Thought
14 Intemperance.
15 Duelling
16 Wome's rights.
17 The memoir of a Tea Box.
18 Speech og Colnel Screw. Imagination
19 Personal Freedom
20 Crusade against vice - Intemperance, burning witches, etc.
21 Man is never contented.

B.D.Bancroft, Waterville Academy

1. Poetry - The Indian Hunter.

Jan. 1, 1846

An Article of Agreement by and between John Smith, Nathan Birdsall, and William Shepherd of the Town of Otego, Otsego Co., N.Y. of the first part and trustees for the erection of a bridge across the Susquehannah River in the Town aforesaid opposite the Inn of Royal Shepherd and the subscribers unto the article inhabitants of the town and vicinity of the second part.

Witnesseth - That the said party of the first part do agree to erect or see to the erection of a good lattice bridge on the before mentioned site after the abutments are in. Said bridge to be built in good workmanlike manner; of good materials and well painted and said party of the first part do agree to see that the money, work and lumber, etc. subscribed on a subscription bearing the date of Jan. 1, 1846, put up for the purpose of erecting said bridge is expended to the best advantage, and the said subscribers being the said party of the second part do agree to pay to the said party of the first part in proportion to the amount we have subscribed on the before mentioned subscription for all that may be or shall be expended by them for the erection of said bridge over and above what they are able to collect on the aforemention subscription.

June 1, 1846

Dr. John D. Bancroft
Otego, N.Y. to Mr. Crane.

Dear sir,

I had an interesting visit with our friends in Clavarack. Had the pleasure of meeting John Henry at Edwards. I had a time getting home with my wagon through the deep snow. The time was when I could say with the plaintive bard "when the kiss of charity goes around, there is no kiss alas for me." Now I have friends both far and near but above all I have in a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. And how it invigorates my heart that so many of my kindred and friends have an alike faith. My visit to you all has been like the renewing of my days. The presents we received have been pleasant remembrances and gave much satisfaction. The case of instruments was just the thing for Oscar and he prizes it the more highly as a present from his New York cousins. But perhaps none has taken more satisfaction than little Demarest with his little wooden trooper. And the most intrinsically valuable gift is Jays Exercises. It is all we could wish as a remembrance because it will recall absent friends to mind every day of the year.

A time of family devotion, its doctrines and sentiments are right, being founded upon scripture.

We are all enjoying good health at present. Oscar, (Wm. Oscar Bancroft) has not been very rugged this spring since he left the Academy. I have enjoyed myself pretty well. Have had good success in getting my spring crops in. It has been a beautiful growing season. The Temperance Movement has not succeeded in this town as we could wish. Although we rejoice in its triumphs in other parts of the State. But prayers, earnest, importunate prayers should now ascend from every Christian, every family alter, and every devoted heart.

Give my love to all the members of your family and to all our friends as you have opportunity. How Elsie Ann reminded me of her sainted mother.

Yours J.D.B.

To Daniel Crane.
Old Demarest Log book.

Smithville Flatts

July 8, 1846

Dear Doctor Bancroft,

How can I tell you what I must tell? The companion of my youth, the mother of my children sleeps in death in Michigan. She will no longer divide the sorrows or increase the joys of life only by the remembrance of what she once was. May those who have pained or afflicted her life find mercy with God at death.

She left our dwelling on Friday, June 19, and started next morning from the Flatts for Rome in Oneida County. I accompanied her to that place where, after seeing her on the boat, left her and returned home. The week before the meetings at your place, I expected then to be at your house without fail. She wished me to give her best respects to sister Bancroft. She arrived at her brothers the 3rd day of July and on the 12th at one pm. took her departure from a world of sorrow and entered upon an eternal sabbath of rest and my greatest desire is to be prepared to meet her where parting will never again occur. John is with her and is still in Michigan. I intend to start soon if means can be reached to bring him home if I find him living. Mrs. Miller had her grave clothes made and carried them with her. Death to her had lost its sting. She had been ill with coughing pain in her chest and had lost so much weight. She lived three weeks and one day after she left home. Her death was peaceful and calm with Christian resignation.

I feel the need of prayers of those who have interest at the Throne of Grace. The strongest cord that binds me to earth is severed. The greatest earthly comfort I have ever had or expect to have is gone. But I thank God for the precious loan afforded me so long and hope I may profit by her counsel and reap the benefit of her prayers so long and so fervently offered in my behalf. She was very sick going to the lake and it

terminated in diarrhea the winding up of the consumption. She had the best of medical aid, but her time had come and no human skill could stay the hand of death. I regret I could not have been there to attend her in her last hours and to have heard the last whisper of peace as it dropped from her quivering lips, and witness her triumph over death through the blood of the Lamb. I have no home to call my own. I have broken up housekeeping. I hope it may be my privilege to meet her where the smile of a Saviors approbation will constitute a large portion of that joy which is known in its fullness only in heaven and enjoyed by none but God's chosen people. I will be at your house as soon as convenient. I want to see the bretheren in Colesvill. May the Lord bless you.

John J. Miller.

Clavarack, N.Y.
Sept. 14, 1846

Dr. John D. Bancroft

Dear Sir,

I am happy that you enjoyed your visit with us at Clavarack.

Elsie Ann my wife, Henry my oldest son, Willie and our two little daughters are here. Edward and Thomas are attending school at the Hudsan Academy.

Eleanor Demarest is to be married tomorrow to a Mr. Ellsworth Miller the son of a neighboring farmer, which makes a good match except one thing. I may be rather Puritanic but my thinking is that a Disciple of Christ has no business--to form a connexion--with one who is an enemy of our best friend. We hope she will have a good influence over her friend. John Henry and wife are here.-----Edward Demarest.

Trust you will make us a visit next fall.-------

Yours with much esteem,
D. Crane.

The Old Demarest Naval Log

November 1846

Wm. Oscar attended the Delaware Literary Institute in Franklin, Delaware Co., N.Y.

Samville, Ill.
April 26, 1847

Dear Sister,

We are well, Flora seven months old tomorrow weighed 14 pounds. She is a marvel. So small, so healthy, so smart,so plump, so spritely, and so sweet. You know the old adage about the crows segacious judgement on the color of her fledglings, etc.

I was some sorry and some glad to hear of the mob at old No. 12. The same thing was tried on the Anti-Masons there. But it did not crush them. In former days abolitionists were mobbed in the west, however we kept dark and said nothing, for every stale egg thrown by the mob hatched a liberty chicken. Mobocrats saw how it worked after while and stopped out of spite.

I was glad to hear of the mob when I thought of the right impetus it must give the cause. Don't prosecute them. But go on with your meetings, talk, argue and debate. Spread the truth, be fearless, be Christlike. The truth must prevail. Stick to one idea. It is the idea of the age.

Liberty, what a glorious watch word. There are other great questions in the political world but none so great as this. The man who stoops now to argue free trade or any other petty question, is like him who finding a lion entrenched in his parlor calls in his neighbor to assist in his extermination, wishes each man to engage to kill all the noxious vermin on the premises. One wishes to kill the dogs, another the cats, the third hates the rats and mice and a fourth will not lift a finger unless snakes are included. So while the matter is being debated the lion is feasting on the children. Kill the lion first.

Our election for delegates to convention to revise the constitution has just passed. We are beaten in this county by 40 votes. Yet both Whigs and Democrats are united against us. Our candidate is the brother of the murdered LoveJoy. The vote in the precinct stood Liberty 70, Democrats 18, Whigs 13. But what if the Liberty votes never arrive at a majority. No matter,

I say, if we drive the other party to elect men who will abolish slavery. Don't forget the devil carried the first missionary to Rome and supported him there for two whole years. Of course, we would have done nothing if the church was inactive. So let the friends of the slave be up and doing. And He who controls the wrath of devils and men will bind their strength to the care of reform and no matter how much it may be against their will, they shall help to swell his onward momentum till "Liberty shall be proclaimed through all the land."

We will move this week, only a mile, but I dread it.

Love to all, Sanford.

Sangerfield, N.Y.
May 23, 1847

Mr. Wm. Oscar Bancroft,
Otego, Otsego Co., N.Y.

Dear Nephew,

I received your letter last night. I am happy to hear you are enjoying yourself as well as you are and progressing in your studies. You say you are in the old stone building. Here I am on this old mountain yet, all alone. Not much going on but hard labor. Once in a while go off three or four miles to meeting or something of the kind. I commenced working the day you left and have followed it up ever since. Consequently I have not visited as much as I talked of. I get rather lonesome once in a while but I get up and go to work full slivers. I wish once in a while I could be down there for a while and see the folks if nothing else. The weather is very warm and dry. Rained some yesterday. The weather previous to that was wet and cold and backward. Could not do anything hardly. Consequently rather backward about spring work on the hill. Plum trees are white with blossoms. Apple and cherrie trees are beginning to blossom fast. I am digging in hard to get done planting so to rest and visit. I have got our corn planted and sowing most done. A few potatoes to plant and a small piece to plow for buckwheat. Have been to Uncle Davids once. Mother has been to Uncle Robs for a week. Ira, Leonard and Eliza send respects to all enquiring friends. We found your knife and handkerchief soon after you left. Tell Henry and Warren they should come up for a visit. Give my love to all enquiring friends.

Yours Truly
B.D.Bancroft

May 29, 1847

John Bancroft
Otego Village
County Otsego, N.Y.

To the Honourable John "Bancroft"

I must inform you that we are all well and that our neighbor Henry Olendorf lays on the point of death. Hoping these few lines will find you and your family in good health, now I would say to you and your "cutting machean" is redty and was redty some time ago. Excepting the nails to put on the strap I had to go to Binghamton to get them and it is now "redty" and in a few days have it at my "Lords" if it is in my power and if a team can be had. If not you drive up. I suppose you have "lurned" that I have "Lublickly" and "Openly" and "won me abolishonist with grad many others". Elder Erl is a warm one the voats wen in the balit bx last Town meating and now let us hold fast to our integrity till we gane the victory, until slavery and Opresion is dun away with the Lord help."

Colesville
John

Dr. John D. Bancroft

Otego, N.Y.
Nov. 5, 1847

Sir,

I have been informed by Dr. Bronson of Windsor that he has again sent money for me to you and I suppose you applied it, for my benefit, in paying taxes on my land. I enclose two dollars for you to use for your self in part payment for the trouble you may have inured on my account. You will please write me on receipt of this and state what is the situation with my matters and how soon I must remit more money to you and how much.

Yours, etc.
J.D.Bancroft

From the old Demarest nautical log which he used as a copy book, P.M.B.

ca 1847

Wm.Oscar attended a "Select school", a private school, where he wrote an essay on "The change of the seasons. This school in Otego.

Otego, N.Y.
Jan. 1, 1848

Dear Cousin,

I wish you a happy New Year. Having a little leisure time today, I thought I could not improve it better than by directing a few lines to you. Been over the river about two weeks with my cousin Martin Shepherd visiting the school. I had the pleasure of reading your letter to cousin George and was pleased to learn that you were enjoying health and so many other blessings of a merciful God who is slow to anger and of great kindness. But why have you not written sooner. I would like to know how you are getting along with your new business, how you like the country and the folks. I presume you have been informed about the death of my little brother Edward D. Bancroft. Now I have neither brother or sister. But I consider all these affliction as sent by an all Wise Providence to teach us the vanity of all earthly things and teach us to look to heaven for happiness, where sickness and sorrow, pain and death can never come. He died November 30th of congestion of the lungs, aged 4 years. Uncle William Birdsall preached the funeral sermon. We buried him a Harpursville beside his two little brothers.

There is a Select School taught in this place, which I attended. My cousins Martin Shepherd and Milla Birdsall board with us and attended school. I study algebra, Latin, Grammer and Virgil. Your cousin Nathan Shepherd was married November 30th to a Miss Lucinda Lewis at Sand Hill and the next day they started for Cooperstown in a wagon. You recollect how Albert Shepherd had some trouble with his father and ran away. He went to Paris, Oneida County and worked for a short time and then started direct for Wisconsin where he worked for a man for a year and then married a girl by the name of Catharine Harry and then came back. His father is sick with inflammation of the

lungs. He is in dangerous condition. William and Almira are well and full of mischief. Almira is up to Nathan Pierces this winter and had knit a pair of sox for herself. William lives at home and goes to school.

Grandmother asked me to tell you to remember your father's counsels. Our folks all join me in sending you their respects.

William O. Bancroft.

to John A.J.Birdsall

Otego, N.Y.
Jan. 5, 1848

Dear Cousin, Having a little leisure time today I thought I could not improve it better than by addressing a few lines to you. I suppose that you without doubt have been informed of the death of my little brother, E. P. Bancroft. An all wise God has again seen fit to afflict us and I am again, as it were alone in the world having neither brother or sister. But I consider all these afflictions as sent by an all wise God to teach the vanity of all earthly enjoyments and teach us to look to heaven for happiness, where sorrow, pain and death can never come. He died the 30th day of November of congestion of the lungs, aged 4 yrs and 3 days. My uncle, the Rev. H. Birdsall preached the funeral sermon.

There is a select school taught in this place by a Mr. Sumner converse from the Town of Butternuts. Formerly the principle of the Academy at Elmira. He says that I.H.Demarest's boys went to school to him. He is an excellent teacher and we have as good a school as we could wish for. I study Algebra, Latin Grammer and read Virgil. And am paying some attention to Greek. We have had but very little sleighing as yet. We have had mud in abundance and the ground is so my father plowed in the middle of December. Business is rather dull about here at present. Pork is selling at $5.00 cwt. Wheat at 10/ a bu., Corn and Rye at 5/ Wheat flour at $7.00 a barrel. I should like to have you write me and tell me how you get along with your studies. What is going on of any importance in the great City of New York. I know you do not have much time to spend in letter writing but if you could manage to write a few lines to me at odd moments it would be a great gratification to me. Words cannot express the pleasure that I enjoyed in my visit to your excellent parents

and I feel very thankful toward all of your kind endeavors to make my visit a pleasant one. We had a pleasant journey home and we found all of our friends enjoying usual health, except my grandfather who was unwell but soon got better. But he is old and feeble and we cannot expect him to enjoy very good health. I should like exceedingly well to have any of your folks to write me a letter and if they wish it, I will endeavor to answer. Mother has been quite unwell for a number of weeks past. A cousin of mine is sick with western fever. His life is despaired of. Give my love to all your fathers family and to Mr. Curries, and to Ellen and Elizabeth in particular.

Yours truly
Wm. O. Bancroft

Edward P. Crane
from Large Arithmetic work book.

Auburn, N.Y.
Jan. 14, 1848

Wm. O. Bancroft
Otego, Otsego Co., N.Y.

My dear Cousin,

I received your letter yesterday and was much pleased to hear from you and my friend and teacher Berthier. (Berthier Bancroft, Oscars Uncle, but near Oscars age) You write that you are attending school and it is a good school. I hope it will be the means of helping to get a good education, which is a thing which if I get, I must obtain by my own endeavors for without any assistance from any of my friends who (though able to educate their own children) cannot spare enough to assist a poor orphan in obtaining what is and ever has been him most ernest wish to obtain. And not only his but he think it was his fathers wish. You wrote that Demarest is dead and that you are as it were alone, in this case I most sincerely grieve with you. I know what it is to lose those who are near and dear. And altho I know not what it is to be alone without a brother or sister in the world, yet I know what it is to lose near and dear friends and with those friends to what would have been my portion, my assistance in getting an education.

Auburn is a pretty little place of about 9,000. The County seat of Cayuga Co. with a state prison. It has seven churches and eight taverns and a museum. I am enjoying good health. Give my love to my friends and tell them to write.

John A. J. Birdsall

January 19, 1848
Otego, Otsego Co.

Paine C. Parker, Esq.

Enclosed find $20.00, please pay my deliquent tax before the land is sold. Please indicate how much more, if any, will be required to clear that land and compensate you for your services. Do you wish to administer that property for Mr. Bennett to whom I have sold it.

very truly yours,
John D. Bancroft

Otego, N.Y.
Jan. 24, 1848

Mr. Ham
Dear Sir,

By the request of your daughter in law, Catharine Shepherd, I write to inform you of her circumstances. Her health is not very good but this has not prevented her from writing but she sorrows and mourns over the death of her husband, your son, who departed this life this morning, a few minutes after twelve o'clock of bilious or Western fever. He died in the triumph of faith. And she appears anxious to become acquainted with the Savior. They arrived in this place Thursday the 26 of November. Albert was taken down Wednesday, December 8 and Catharine has been his constant attendant. So that, oltho she often wished to write you she could not. And now she is too much depressed with sorrow with watching and the effects of an Auge in her face to write immediately. But she intends to write soon. She sends her tenderest gratitude to her loved and honored parents who are doubly dear to her in her affliction and sorrow. She wishes her parents to be informed that she has found sympathetic friends in this distant land. I would say to you she has endeared herself to Albert's friends for her kindness and perservering attention to him and for her general good deportment. Be assured her every want will be supplied and every attention will be paid to alleviate her sorrow. She cannot come to you till spring and she will correspond with you before that time. She wishes you to write immediately and direct to her at Otego, Otego Co. N.Y.

Yours etc,
J.D.Bancroft

Old Demarest Naval Log.

Account book

Otego New York
March 1, 1848

To the Hon. Supt. of Common Schools of the State of New York,
Dear Sir,

I am well aware that your patience must be frequently tried on account of the many unnecessary and sometimes frivolous letters you receive. But I have been requested to write you a statement of the facts in reference to an appeal from the Town dated 28 ult. from District number 3 signed by John Birdsall and Horace Knapp - The course is taken because the aforesaid trustees refuse to permit the said Shepherd to make a counter statement in connection with their appeal. It is true that the said Shepherd did not certify to his,___, succession in office, at the expiration of his term the amount of money received, etc. for it has not been customary in this District or in fact in the adjoining Districts to do so. It is my opinion that no exceptions would have been taken in the premises - had not - the parties become offended - but they would have waited till they wished to make their annual reports and then assert the facts necessary as is the custom in the most of the districts in this section - But further said Shepherd, as soon as he assertained what was required of him and why he was persecuted went to the Dept. Supt. and obtained the necessary minutes and left them with the said trustees, 14 days previous to the time for making their annual report - And guaranteed to the District their money and to indemnify the District from any loss and to pay the expense already incurred with the understanding that it should be a final settlement. I would certify that the said Shepherd is abundantly able to make good his guarantee - It is true, Sir, that it is very desirable and would save much contention and trouble did every officer follow out the letter of the law but the most of men are not this particular and we cannot get them to conceive it necessary. These individuals who are now so apparently tenacious of the letter of the law have not always been so scrupulous. Mr. Birdsall has acknowledged having kept over the amount of library money from one year to another and told the District that they were able to continue their summer school - because he has $5.21 in his hand that could be used and it was thus used. But he would not tell what money it was. Also he has now sworn that it was library money. The aforesaid Mr. Knapp is a hard drinker, is considered to be very medlesome, a mischief maker.

Respectfully yours,

J.D.Bancroft.

P.S. The peace loving members of this community would feel very much aggrieved if he wishes to keep up (Mr. Knapp) this constant contention. This is probably the reason why the Dept. Supt. would not attend to the wishes of Mr. Knapp and Mr. Birdsall as testified by Mr. Broad foot.

Triangle, N.Y.
April 11, 1848

William O. Bancroft
Otego, Otsego County, N.Y.

Fellow School mate,

According to the proposal you made respecting writing to each other for our improvement I now seat myself to say a few words to you. Not by telegraphic dispatch but by mail.

I feel myself very deficient in composition. As practice tends to make perfect, by practice only can we improve. When I came home I intended to write soon but partly from negligence and partly for want of time I have put it off till I feel quite guilty for not complying more punctually. Now, Oscar, if you will pardon my negligence, I will try to be more faithful in the future.

What are you doing now days, Are you at school and if not do you intend to go and where. I have studied Algebra and so forth since I came home. I understand and like it the more I study it. Have you seen Mr. Converse since school was out. Please give my regards to Elizabeth and Charles Smith.

Now, Oscar, if you think this worthy of an answer I would be gratified to receive one. Please write.

Yours truly
H. Morse

Account book

Otego New York
March 1, 1848

To the Hon. Supt. of Common Schools of the State of New York,
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June 16, 1848
Samville, Ill.

Dear Sister,

I will not try to give you a deguerreotype representation of my present situation for I am not good at painting. We moved into our new house yesterday. Myra is about tired to death and sick with a head ache. The baby has a sore mouth and Flora has gone to sleep on a blanket on the floor.

Last week Myra and I and George went to Ottowa to the Association. Had a fine ride and a fine meeting and a safe return.

We have no good school house in Samville. But I will see that one is built if you come to teach. Samville is growing a little. A Bishops palace has been built which, all things considered is a little the finest building I ever saw.

I wish Azel would come back provided he could be healthy. His sickness here does not prove he would be sick if he were to try it here again. Myra was so sick at the time that he suffered for want of care. I know something of the feelings with which your mind turns toward the west. To you it is a land of terror, filled with miasma, rattle snakes and graves. True our mother finished her earthly cares by her journey west. My own heart sickens when I think of that dreary, dreary return journey with all of its aggravated horrors to her aching head. But it is easy now. It rests on that bosom that drives away all pain, fear or care. It is some consolation to you all as well as to us that she lived to get home to die in the bosom of her family. I do not recollect that I have written one word to father on the subject of mother's death, I cannot do it. My feelings are too acute. And he knew her and loved her better than any of us can.

I am astonished how seldom we write to each other.

Father and mother Palmer have gone east on a visit. You may see them at Colesville. Their relatives live in Exeter and Otsego County. I got a letter from them this week. They were then on the canal near Montezuma. Had a properous time on the Lakes.

Our meeting house, "makes haste slowly. I have $129 subscribed for my support here. I fear that while I am laboring to obtain food and clothes for my family many precious souls in my field will go sown into purdition. "How shall they hear without a preacher. I sometimes regret that I know how to work as well as I do. Some body would do it if I could not and might be visiting studying and preaching. I do love the work of the ministry, although my heart shrinks from the responsibility.

Love to all

Sanford. (Samuel Sanford Martin)

His sister Mary Anne 30 yrs of age who married Marcus J. Blakeslee A sister of Clora Amanda Martin and daughter of Deacon Samuel Martin Jr. Myra is Almira Palmer, his wife.

His mother had been visiting Samuel Sanford Martin, became sick and went home on a tedious and tiring rail and boat ride, and died after reaching home.

Aug. 28, 1948

Malinda (Crofut) Martin w of Samuel Martin

Have long neglected to write. Irene was two years old last July. Elvira was maryd last May but what i wish to rite is the death of Lucius B. on the 18th of this month he was kicked by a horse leaving a large piece of scul and some brayns on the groud where he first fel he lived three day and but partially deranged. 1842 March 15 Elvira had a son born cald him Martin, he lived but 9½ months. 1843 April 10 the snow was two and a half feet deep in the woods, foder was very scarce the cattle strayed. September 1843 Sanford was ordained and went to Illinois was maryd to Almira Palmer Oct. 12 1845
October 4, 1847 late spring. Our folks tapped the trees
O; When will the wicked cease from troubling there was a meeting appointed last Thursday at our school house expecting a black and a white man from a distance to discuss the subject of equal rites and slavery and i suppose the proslavery party thought these things too had to come to lite so they raised a mob and surrounded the house in the first place some came in and commenced to talking loud and stamping and singing. Others flung snow in the speakers face most of them went out and the door was closed but they broke it down and after all did not stop the lecture

The spelling and lack of capitals are hers. She lived in a day when girls were seldom educated.

Lamorth, Ill.
June 23, 1848

Miss Mary A. Martin
Osborn, Hollow, N.Y.

Dear Sister,

I have tried to preach from the text of which you sent me a skeleton by brother Earle. Second Corinthians 8:9. The riches of the Lord Jesus Christ before his incarnation---.

Poverty he voluntarily assumed for us----------.

The riches we truly receive----------

Here is the great motive for Christian obedience, particularly the duty for giving. Let others enquire what they must do or what they may omit and get to heaven. ----- But their standing and gazing at the cross till their whole soul is on fire exclaim with the poet,-

Were the whole realm of nature mine
It were a present far to small,
Love so amazing, so divine
Demands my heart, my life, my all.

Samuel Sanford Martin

Dec. 3, 1848
South Bainbridge.

Dear Sir,
I am on the point of selling my farm as I am not able to manage it to advantage. I should be glad to obtain an agency of of some kind on which I shall be able to support my family. I have thought of obtaining an agency in fire insurance and at the same time act in procuring subscriptions for some publication in your city.. Now, sir, if you can assist me in procuring some business of this nature you will oblige your friend.

sincerely

D. Crane.
New York City. . John D. Bancroft.

Samville, Ill.
Nov. 4, 1848.

Dear Sister Clora,
Since I wrote Irene I have been very sick, The chills came back on Monday, and I have been confined to the house ever since. They make me dreadfully sick when they come which is every other day now.
Yesterday it snowed four inches. Myra and the children keep well enough although my illness throws a heavy burden on Myra. She does the work outdoors and in which is too much for her.

Sincerely
Clora Amanda Martin.
Sanford (Samuel Sanford Martin)

Franklin, N.Y.
23 Dec. 1848

#510 To Dr. John D. Bancroft

Dear Parents,

There is a great number of scholars here this term. There are over fifty young ladies. Yesterday there were some 8 or 10 cutters engaged in transporting the young ladies to the school and it made a lively time of it. The cutters flying back and fourth through the deep snow with the horses on the jump and the snow flying in every direction and last night they had a two horse sleigh and bob with a long box which they would stuff as full as it would hold. Mr. Converse took it upon himself to be chief manager and he appeared to be in his element. The prospect of good sleighing has made me hole sick and as school does not keep on New Years day, which comes a week from next Monday, if I felt able to hire a horse I should be tempted to drive down home Friday night after school and stay till Monday. But as I dont see much prospect of bringing that about, I want you to come up as soon as you can. I have been without pills for about a week and I am afraid I shall get too bad off if I go much longer. You probably recollect of my speaking of belonging to the Waterburian Society and of seeing their paper last term. It is going on quite prosperous this term. Mr. Kerr has taken it into his head to take quite an interest in its concerns and has suggested to some of the members that it should be best to have a library. He said he never knew of a literary society to stand a great while and proper, without their having a library. I oposed it until I saw that all the rest were being bent upon having one. And now I suppose I will have to give something or be considered stingy. If you think it best I would like to have you fetch along some suitable book when you come. I hardly know wheter we have anything suitable or not, I thought some of that small book, Goods Book of Nature. I will leave that to you. I have always hated to spare any of my books but

I don't know but I ought to now. You must forgive the manner in which this letter is written for there is so much noise going on my head is completely confused. I do not have time to copy it. You can't have no idea how I have been drove this term, my poor head aint strong enough or quick enough to get along as others do without study. I have had to work every night this term till after eleven o'clock and generally every morning before day light and all day beside. I have not looked inside a book to read a page unless it was a little while on Saturday or Sunday this term. My recitation of the day ends at 3:30 p.m. Then I study my Greek reader lesson until prayers, and then when I can get time to go and get supper and get back again it is dark. I then study Greek until 7 o'clock, then I look at my Virgil lesson with one of my classmates, which takes until 9:30. Then I study my grammer lesson and geometry until bed time. In the morning I study a different thing until after breakfast. I usually get up an hour before prayers to study Greek. After prayers I have an hour to get my latin lesson and look over my Virgil, then I recite my Virgil and immediately after that a latin grammer lesson. Then I have from 11:00 to 12:00 and from 1:00 to 1:30 to finish my greek readers lesson adn get my Greek grammer. After I recite I have an hour to study Geometry, and how hard I have to study that hour, if I succeed in which I do not always do.

Yours with affection, Wm. O. Bancroft

Otego, 1848.

Dear Sir,

I have recently received a paper (The Democratic Standard) in my mail containing a list of delinquent lamds in your county, in which there is advertised for sale a lot of 160 acres, charged to Daniel Farnham, range IE Township,6N; section 7 N.E. quarter. I have a deed from Daniel Farnham of Williams County dated Jan. 3, 1838., being the N.E. of section 7,, in Township No. 6, north of Range No. 1, east, containing 160 acres. Being the same entered in the recorder's office in Lima, Ohio, Nov. 18, 1836, William Blackburn receiver of which I also hold the script from the receiver's office. Dear Sir, I wish you to inform me if that labd has been sold. Judge Payne C. Parker of St. Joseph has here to fore paid my taxes for me and I supposed til recently that my taxes had been paid up to 1847 as I had remitted money to Dr. Bronson of Windsor, Broome Co., N.Y. for the tax of 1846. But the Judge informs me he took the money sent by Bronson to pay the Dr's tax and omitted notifying me that my tax had not been paid. If the land has been sold can I obtain a Sherifs deed and what will be the expense to redeem said land and obtain a deed over and above the taxes as stated in your advertisement? If I redeem the land can I or had I better obtain a deed direct from the U.S., as I suppose Farnham never obtained one, and if so what will be the expense? I enclosed $20. to Judge Parker Jan. 19, 1848 and have received no answer from him as yet. Dear Sr., if you will knform me how my matters stand and advise me as to my best course, you will oblige a stranger.

Yours,

J.D.Bancroft.

From the old Demarest Captain's log.

1848

Know all men by these presence that we, John D. Bancroft and Henry F. Birdsall of Bainbridge and William H. Birdsall of Butternuts, Otsego Co., are held and firmly bound unto the Washington County Mutual Insurance Company in the sum of 4500.00, lawful money of the U.S.A., to be paid to the said company or their successors or assigbs , with which painment well and truely paid, we j intly and severally bind ourselves, our heirs and executors and administrators firmly by these presence sealed with our seal and dated day of year of our Lord 1848.

The condition of this obligation is such. that when the bounden J.D.Bancroft has been apointed an agent of said company. ---,.

from the old Demarest seamans log.

Delaware Lit. Inst.
Febr 4, 1849

Dr. J.D.Bancroft.
South Bainbridge, Chanago Co. N.Y.
Dear Parents,

I was thinking yesterday how glad I would be to see you. Yesterday morning I was busily engaged in writing a long composition, as my room mate is editor this week, he thinks I must give him one. Went down to Mr. Porters with Mr. Kerr to get piano and other things. In the afternoon I was obliged to go look up some wood, which I finally got at Water's Store at the rate of 12/ a cord for 4 ft. wood. Then I was obliged to get a horse and wagon to draw it over here, then to saw up enough to last till next Saturday. Then to the bible class at Mr. Kerr's in the evening.

Changeable weather. One day very warm and next very cold. One day it will rain and next snow and hail and blow. I have caught a very bad cold or it has caught me. I have had the worst cough I can ever recollect having. It was not a coarse heavy cough like I have been used to having but a dry hacking cough that would seem as though it would tear my throat raw. I have been under the necessity of giving up my geometry but go into Mr Kerr's Astromony lecture instead. I must go to breakfast and finish this later.

Sabbath afternoon, I have just returned from supper. I heard a sermon by Mr. Chittenden, an agent of the American Bible Society. It was a good"begging" sermon. He preaches the same sermon wherever he goes.

I wish you could attend a bible class under Mr. Kerr. You cant think how interesting he will make things. In the course of this exposition last evening he brought up the question of slavery. He appears to think that a man who has knowledge of the Bible can never be enslaved. He said also he never saw a man who sold ardent spirits that he considered to be a Christian.

I am nearly out of clean clothes. I wish you would bring me a cushon as I am afraid I will wear the seats of my clothes all out on these hard chairs. And I would like one of our chairs for they are so much easier to set in. Also a patent water pail for the water tastes so horrid from a tin one. Also a straw bed tick as the one I have is a poor one.

We expect a man here in about a fortnight with a large aparatus to deliver a course of lectures on chemistry. Mr. Kerr says it will be a better oportunity for us than is afforded at most colleges in the United States.

I think I get along as well with my studies as I could expect under the circumstances. I have gained a good deal in the languages. Be sure to fetch up some cough drops. Excuse my mistakes as I have no time to copy it. I have wrote very fast.

Your affectionate son
Wm. O.Bancroft

Youngwoman's Town
7 Febr. 1849

Mr. William O. Bancroft.
Franklin, Delaware County, N.Y.
Carus Amicus,

The long defered and long expected epistle at length arrived. Bringin with it many evidences of the sweetness of friendly intercourse. and reminding me of many pleasant hours spent in forming a pleasant alliance with your self. Until the present time our acquaintance has continued under pleasant circumstances. I estimate the relationship we stand into each other, that of friendship. I do not mean to blame you for not writing sooner. Your excuses are perfectly reasonable and I would be glad to plead similar ones for my neglect. But as we are in the same situation we can appreciate each others difficulties, in the way of keeping up a more lively correspondence.

I am actively engaged in the duties of my school. Things are not moving on a very agreeable with me. I have a difficult school to manage to my notion. Yet I have no serious trouble with it. The greatest fault of my school is their heedlessness, which I suppose is common to all boys and girls. I and Ed. Hearter and LeRoy and Augustus and the rest of the gang were once guilty of. My time is busily employed so I have no time to devote to study during the day. What little I get in the evenings will not help far in Science. For I believe it to be a mountain. We have no hills in this country. If it were right to wish for what we have not I would wish I were going to school with you, and could have the benefit of living instructors and companions, in the pleasant task of getting an education. How are you getting along. Who do you meet with that very much interests you? What are your prospects and designs about doing good and enjoying life? For my own part I cannot say that I have any particular design for the future regarding to a mode of getting a living

or my business in life. But my aim is to try to improve the present as well as I can. And follow the leadings of Providence. As to enjoying life, I firmly beleave there is no happiness except in religion and I believe that with in this the next thing to perfect happiness can be enjoyed even here. The Baptists have lately held a meeting here in which they have by the help of the Lord established a church of sixteen converts and prosylites. Rev. Mr. Miles and Mr. Young for the Jersey shore. Rev Mr. Young once in his boyhood held a protracted meeting on the Coles Hill or Martins Hill. Perhaps you know him. Is a good man I believe. I have become acquainted with him and esteem him very much.

Your Friend.

George R. Vosburg

Samville
Febr. 20,1849.

Dear Sister,

We are all tolerably well., I have a pretty sore mouth caused by a cold and a canker. I have written, written and written to different members of the family but can get no reply. We have not heard from any of you since last October. It is so long to your despondent sick brother. My foot is nearly well. It seems entirely healed but by being much exposed to the cold it is very tender and even sore. Once my features were familiar to you but by being exposed to the cold, sun and storms of Illinois have rought changes you little dream of People usually grow dark complected here.

George has had a turn of reumatism. His lower limbs were lame and sore for two days. He refused to stand. He appears well now. He is all about the house and climbs into chairs.

We have had a dreadfully severe winter for which I was poorly prepared owing to my sickness. I have nothing to feed my pony and cow and have nothing to buy with.

I am happy in the bosom of my little family. We saw a letter from Knoxville the other day. Folks all well. Alexander is to go to California.

I have just skinned my eighth coon.

Good night,

Sanford (Samuel Sanford Martin)

Mary A. Martin
Colesville, Broome County, N.Y.

Franklin Academy
March 3, 1849.

Dear Parents,

As the time for the class of the winter term has nearly arrived I thought I would improve this opportunity for writing a few lines to you. I have but very little time to write so I hope you will excuse my writing if it is not as good as you would like to have. I expect to have to take a part in the exhibition and if I do it will have to work very hard to learn it. ---. I have also to learn another piece, --- I commenced reciting in chemistry this week, with a class which studied it all term and is now reviewing it and alltho I have never studied it I think, without bragging, I recite as well as any in the class. Last Thursday I disagreed with Mr. Converse on one point and on referring it to Prof. Mathers, he decided I was right. Chemistry lectures are kept up almost every evening, but I dont know but I am going to spoil my eyes looking so intently where there are so many bright lights. ---. He had the magnetic telegraph in operation. I would like to hsve you bring up my little pocket compas so I can have it charged over again. I had a very short visit last Thursday from John Wilkinson. ---. I want you to bring that small leather trunk and carpet bag. Mr. Kerr's child has been so sick that he has been obliged to leave school for three days. ---. It was in great distress and the doctor was afraid it was threatened with inflammation of the brain,---. They sent to Delhi for a physician,---. The remedy that they though effected the cure was constant application of water to his head, as cold as it could be made. ---. We finished the latin grammer for this term and we expect to finish virgil next week, I went

March 5, 1849.
Harpursville, N.Y.

Dear Friend,

There is go-ing to be a great deal of Building here. Mr. Harmon Tyrell has bought the tavern stand and is going to build a large tavern on it. Mr. James B. Frasier is going to build a house on the other side of the mill pond. Mr. Edward Northrup is going to build a house on the north side of the Chapel. Mr. Converse is doing the work. Luke Dort is going to build a house on a lot on the side hill before the Chapel. Dr Guy is going to build a house where the old one stands. They are going to build a bridge across down by the grist mill. I believe that is all the building except for some barns and other out buildings.. We have had some excellent sleighing this winter. Last week I went up to Lewisville with Miss Avery, we had good sleighing going up but came home on bare ground. Edward sends his respects to you and says he would like to have you write him. He talks of going to school at Franklin. We will come up to South Bainbridge when you come home. Give my respects to Franklin and give him one of the enclosed cards. Town meeting has gone Democratic except for a few constables. There are a few foolish young men that have got the gold fever. H. G. Williams attends this spring and Robert Harper and Ted Northrup talk of going. The gold fever does not bother me.

Your Friend,

Arthur Vosberg

Wm. O. Bancroft
Franklin, Delaware Co, N.Y.

Delaware Lit. Institute.
March 31, 1849.

Dr. J.D.Bancroft

Dear Parents,

Soon after you left I found I had the key to Berthier's trunk. I thought he would be in a hurry for it, so am writing you. We have eight boarders at Mr. Sullard's. Edgerton brought Mr. Scott's son and Mr. Lovejoy with him. I do not think it is hardly fair for Mr. Sullard to charge 8/6 (#1.06) for board alone while he lets Mr. Hyde and Mr. Lyon have board, washing, lodging rent lights and fuel for 11/ (#1.32½) They have a room, carpeted with a good stove, lounge chairs, their wood brought in and everything necessary. I have to pay $1.00 per term for room and have to furnish it all, buy wood and lug it up stairs and furnish my own light. And last night Mr. Kerr said so much about the students having such nasty rooms that today I went at it, washed the ceiling with ashes and mopped the floor and if I havent had a hardjob of it I don't know. Edgerton has no knack at doing such things. I am going to have a hard time again this term in keeping up with my classes. I only studied geometry half of last term, but Mr. Kerr put me in the advanced class, all of whom have studied twice as much as I have. In the Horace class all but two have read a great deal more Latin than I have. And th se two are very smart fellows. And in the Greek class all but one has read more than I have. It makes me feel discouraged and home sick. O how often I wish I could get into a buriness that would be better for me and easier. You dont know anything about how hard it is to have to study so hard and be all the while in a fever for you shant be able to get along. Edgerton says his father wants to set up an apothecary store, either in Binghamton or Deposit and wants to have some physician go into partnership with him. He has had some talk about Dr. Jim Guy, but they have not come to any conclusion. I thought perhaps it would not do any hurt, for ypu to call and talk to Mr. Edgerton about it when you go to Harpursville, you might make a bargain with him. I believe I will borrow a Greek lexicon. I hate to keep buying these large costly books, when it is so uncertain how long I shall want to use them. Mr. Kerr thinks I should buy Scotts Greek Lexicon which is a larger and later work and will cost $4.50. You must excuse this letter for I am tired in a great hurry.

April 1

P.S. Please bring my satin stock (a collar or neck cloth, fitting like a band around the neck) if father does not wear it. I harly think I will be able to get my clothes ofer to Otego for Uncel Henry totake down. I have no time to go over myself and I do not know of any chance to send them. If you cant come up soon I can get washing where Edgerton gets his for 4 cents a week. The weather has been bad and the work hard which makes me homesick

yours etc.
W, Oscar Bancroft.

New York City
April 28, 1849

Dear Cousin,

Your last epistilary was received and has remained so long unanswered on account of ignorance of your sitaution since from your fathers letter we knew you were to move though we knew not where. Since the reception of the beautiful catalogue which you sent us I am without excuse and will perform a long neglected though by no means unpleasant duty. Judging from the catalogue you sent me I should think you were very pleasantly situated, if your health permits you to pursue your favortie studies. I cannot blame you for perferring the country where in nature glory, you may read the delightful, natural poetry, with an oratory with the ancients. To the noisey city where all is crowded and artificial depriving those works of genious of half their sublimity. It would give me pleasure to hear you had commenced the next collegiate year with us under the tuition of our professors I am now in the last term of the sophomore year, reading Euriphides, Terrence and cummeres surveying you will excuse it on consideration that, since I had studied and practiced surveying before entering college that study required little more than a hasty review. While reading the above mentioned authors requires study. After having taken up the first part of my sheet with personal matters I now take up the family. Henry is again in Albany with F.J.Barnard and Son having dissolved his connections here with Crane, Reeve and Co., so you may direct to box 359 Albany. Hiram is a clerk to T.J.Weels machinist who has a saw and painting mill at the foot of 29th street. Aunt Matilda spent the winter with us and is now here with her sister Sarah who came from Clavarack last Wednesday. Sister Emeline has been quite sick with dysentry though we hope she is now better. I suppose you had heard of the death of Grandpa Crane at Mr. Pratt's cousin's Gilbert Whittlesley, the young man who was boarding with us when you were here who started with his brother Edward from Buffalo for California by the over land route under Sol

U.L. Webb. We have received a number of letters from them and a few weeks ago heard that the cholera had broken out among the company while in the Rio Grande and that Edward Whittlesey was one of the first victims which has been confirmed since by letters from his brother. The company has been disbanded although some are going on. What his intentions are I know not.

Of politics you are probably as well informed as myself. Wars and rumours of wars seem to be the order of the day. The Germans and the Danes have recommenced their barbarous warfare and the latter have so far been unseccessful having lost in the bay of Echenforde a large Man-of-War with 84 guns, a frigate of 42 guns in the former of which 100 men were killed by the explosion of the magazine. The Austrians have had a number of defeats in Hungary. But in Lombardy they have laid the revolting city, Brescia, in ruins. The carnage was dreadful. All these European commotions ought to make us thankful for peace. Give our united love to your father and mother. We will move next Monday to 249 west 24th Street.

Your affectionate cousin

Edward P. Crane.

Franklin Academy
April 29, 1849

Dear Parents,

I never knew before how pleasant it was to receive a letter from home because I do not know as I have ever received one before. Last term my friend Edgerton received a letter from some of his folks almost every week and although I sometimes envied him I never fully appreciated how pleasant it was. I was quite pleased to hear that there was a prospect of having the school increased by so many of our acquaintances next term. I have heard that two of Judge Ruggles daughters are going to attend next term. New students keep coming in gradually. The Methodists have a quarterly meeting here. This morning I attended to hear their presiding Elder preach. I was disappointed. Some of his remarks were good. This P.M. I went to hear Elder Robertson preach his last sermon. My memory is none the best. It seems almost all the while as if my head was so full of something it could hardly hold up, but what it is that it is full of I do not know. I fear it cannot be learning. If it was it should be of some service to me. I sometimes wish I could know whether I am to always enjoy my self as poorly as I do now. Then I am glad I do not for if I knew I never was to feel any better. I would be miserable. But I don't know but I should not complain as long as God spares my parents to me. For if I did not have something to stipulate me I should give up entirely. But once in a while I have some amusement that relieves the tedium of my studies for a short time. Last Tuesday when I had recited my last recitation of the day, I was so completely used up it seemed as though I could not study any more and I should most probably be able to study more. I could not study any more and I should most probably be deficient in my recitation if there had been any school the next day. Mr. Kerr gave the scholars a free day to go out and plant trees in place of three that had died. So as I did not feel like studying that evening I concluded to attend the lyceum as there was a question of some interest up. Mr.

Kerr was one of the desputants. The question- "Resolved that the rum seller who knowingly sells liquor to the habitual drunkard virtually commits murder. The next morning Mr. Groton Edgerton and self started before sunrise and went nearly two miles above the village and dug the largest tree that was brought upon the grounds that day before breakfast. Do wish some one would tell me what it was best for me to do because I do hate to stay here bothering my brains with greek and latin without there is some prospect of its doing some good. I have been thinking that it would be better for me to study arithmetic, Algebra and English pausing next term and try to teach next winter. I have talked to Robert Kerr and he advises me not to teach if I can possibly stay here. He says that the common district schools do not have any very forward scholars and they will bother a person so much he will not be able to get along with his advanced studies. He says that by teaching I will forget a good deal about the languages and when I come back here my classes will have gone ahead and it will take a good while to get going with a new class. All of which would tend to discourage me and the fact is that I do hate to give up latin and Greek if I am to ever do anything with them. As I am in smart classes I begin to get hold of them myself. I was disappointed in getting a Greek dictionary over to Uncle Nathan's so that I will have to buy one this week if I go on with my greek which with my Xenophan will probably cost over $5.00.

With affection, Wm. O. Bancroft

Franklin
May 1, 1849

Dear Parents,

I do not know that I should have been better pleased to have had you come than today as I have felt down hearted today. But Mr. Hydes coming has cheered me considerable. Yesterday, a little afternoon, I had a sever attack of the headache but not so hard but I could not get through my recitations. But I was not able to study anymore till after prayers; instead of going to supper I went off over the hill thinking if I took excersize without eating I might wear it off but I did not succeed. Went to bed early and thought to sleep it off, but I got up this morning with a dull feeling in my head and as soon as I commenced studying it became harder than ever but not withstanding I stuck to it and made out to get through all my recitations and then I went up to Mr. Sullards and planted potatoes for two hours and that has made out to cure it. It don't seem I can stand it to work so hard but I mean to keep up if possible. If I could only come home and work awhile I believe I could come back and work as good as new. I was disappointed in not finding any pills among my medicines as I took the last I had today. But perhaps it will be best for me not to do without them as I have got so used to them by taking them so regularly that they do not produce the least effect on me. I wish you would come up as soon as two weeks it you can as I presume I will need a resting spell by that time, and I could go over to Otego with you. I wish you would get me a brown linen sack coat, made for warm weather. I shall like also a summer vest. Please bring me my mole skin trousers.

Mr. George Chamberlain who lives near died very suddenly of bilous colic. He was in the village the day before in his usual good health. He is a cousin of Rufus.

Write soon, your affectionate son,

Oscar.

Dr. J.D. Bancroft
South Bainbridge

1849-1871 May 2, 1849

This Indenture made the 2nd day of May, 1849 between Anthony W. Jones --- of the Town of Bainbridge County of Chenago, N.Y. party of the first part and

John D. Bancroft of the same town and county

Witnesseth - for the consideration of $400.00

30 acres

Adjoining the land of Henry P. Birdsall

Anthony Jones

Nancy Jones.

May 1849

Anthony Jones to J.D.Bancroft

30 acres in town of Bainbridge part of Lot 47

Timothy Church patent south of Henry P. Birdsall

Legal size documents

Bainbridge, N.Y.
May 28, 1849.

Dear Cousin,

I have been taken unwell, taken with a dull heavy headache. ---. Finally got so bad,---, I sent for the doctor, took a thorough emetic, which caused me to throw up a good bit of billiouous matter. This did not appear to strike at the root of the disease and the doctor finally concluded it was caused by an affection of the spine. On Saturday the pain in my head was so violent that they feared it would affect my brain. But the doctor succeeded in conquoring it and I was soon better.

My parents arrived on Monday and started home with me, but only got as far as uncles , four miles away . I was so fatigued they did not start again till Wednesday. Reached home that night much to my gratification. My healt has grad= ually improved --- but my eyes are weak and I cannot stand to study yet. J was so weak when I got home I could hardly get around the house without a staff. I gained strenghth quite fast and as soon as I could go out doors I commenced walking so much better. I intend to go back to Frsnklin next Tuesday. It came vary hard for me to be broken off from my studies in the middle of the term and I am afraid I will have a hard time catching up. In latin I am reading Horace in Greek Zenophen and studying geometry. Some parts of Horace I like well. He appears to have quite a good opinion of bis abilities for he says he would like to live through all ages.

Our school is flourishing. There are 30 to 40 students studying the languages, a large number for a country school as they generally pay more attention to mathematics and natural sciences. ---. The students can all be accomodated in private rooms either in the Acacemy or, in private homes near by. They have liberty to go to their teacher at any for help.

My father has rented his farm and his health has improved a good since last spring. My mothers health is poor but she works as hard as usual.

Your affectionate cousin.

Wm. O. Bancroft.

Richard P. Crane.

Dr. John D. Bancroft

Delaware Literacy Inst.
June 20, 1849

Dear Parents,

I very much wish I could have a chance to come home as I do not see any prospect of receiving much benefit from remaining here on account of the Temperence Convention. Altho I do not feel my time was lost there entirely because I had a chance of hearing a speaker who's power of oratory I would be inadequate to express. But still it broke up the school for two days. Today the botanical excursion has deprived us of a day and I suppose Mr. Kerr does not like it very well becuase I would not go. But I do not feel disposed to go where I do not wish to and spend my money when I do not have any to spend. This expedition has been in agitation for some time and Mr. Kerr has been very much interested in it. There has been a great deal of trouble among the students about going. And Mr. Kerr has said, it seemed to him that any project that has been started there has been somebody to block the way. But I have not had anything to say about the matter. But if he is disposed to dislike it then he must. Tomorrow there is to be a circus in this place and I suppose there will be not much done. So there will be four days this week about as good as nothing. If it had not been for my interest in hearing Mr. Gough (temperance) I should have been home sick enough. I dont think I shall ever go to school in an academy again. The next week will be all taken up with preparing for exam nations and learning our pieces. I dont believe it does any good to be examined. If I could have known a little sooner how it was going to be I should have come home and learned my exhibition piece and then come back the last day and spoken it. It is no small job to write and learn a piece. I guess I have written mine over six times and I dont think it is good now. It discourages me entirely to see how others can get along easier than I can, both in writing and in learning of all kinds. And if I could get into any business after this

term I would give up trying to be what I know well enough I cant. There have been some deaths from cholera along the Delaware river. One case in Hobart about 30 miles from here in a man who had not been away from home. In all other cases the men had just returned from New York. John A. J. Birdsall has gone to work in the printing office of the Freemans Journal. William Henry is working on the farm.

I feel very nervous and my head is inclined to ache. My cherry bark syrup has lost its virture as it does not prevent my having a head ache. I put some of Townsend's Sarsaparilla in it to make it taste better. Please send me a dollar if it is convenient. I have but one shilling. Edgerton owes me $1.32 but his pockets are empty.

Your affectionate son
Wm. Oscar Bancroft.

South Bainbridge, N.Y.
Aug. 17, 1849

Dear Son,

We are in usual health. Father quite comfortable. You will find your coat and some other things at William Shepherds, or at Uncle Nathans. I have agreed with Mrs. Clyde to make you a pair of slips and send them over to you.

Yours
J. D. Bancroft

South Bainbridge
Aug. 18, 1849

Dear Son,

You will find a box of ointment in the basket which Mrs Nevel made for you to use on your rupture once or twice a day. If you receive benefit from it write and we will prepare more.

J. D. Bancroft

sent by Mrs. Sullard.

Otego, N.Y.
Sept. 10, 1849

Dr. John D. Bancroft,
Dear Parents,

I little expected when I wrote you last that the next would be written from this place. I was taken with a slight case of diarrhea last Thursday which soon turned into a dysentery. It was not attended with much pain. At first I was not much alarmed, but it soon grew worse. I took up what paregoric I had left, then took a patent medicine called "Pain Killer" which is highly recommended for bowel complaints but they did not appear to check the disease. I had a chance to ride over to Otego Sunday. I thought I would improve the opportunity as I hated to be sick in Franklin again. I stopped at Dr. Saunders and he gave me powders partly of morphine and advised me not to go back to Franklin again till I get better. I then went down to Uncle William's and then come over to Uncle Nathans and here I am at present. I don't know how long I shall have to stay here. My secretions have been of a dark green in color and sometimes quite bloody. Aunt Ruth has given me some tea from a plant called "cow tail", which Uncle Nathan thinks is the best remedy he ever tried for such cases. Though it has not cured me yet I think I am getting better for my secretions have ceased being bloody. But I am still in a good deal of pain and have to be perfectly still for if I begin to walk around it brings on the pain harder. If I did not get enough better, soon as I can go back to school, I think I shall take the stage and come home. I want one or both of you to come up to Franklin, if I do not come home. I ate a little toast yesterday. My tongue is somewhat furred and tastes very bad indeed.

Aunt Sarah died yesterday. Is to be burried tomorrow. There is a great deal of sickness on Sand Hill and in the back part of the Town of Unadilla. There are some sick in almost every house and I have heard that four lay dead at one time. It is

tollerably healthy at Franklin yet. Some students are complaining of summer complaint altho none are considered dangerous. John A.J. has left Cooperstown and no body knows where. He told some he was going to N.Y. and work in the printing business and some he was going to California.

Your son,

Wm. Oscar Bancroft.

Youngwomanstown
Clinton County, Penn
Sept.27, 1849

Mr. Wm. Oscar Bancroft
South Bainbridge, N.Y.
My Dear Friend,

I have had more to do than I could attend to in the short a space of time. I was absent from Sinnamohoming, 32 miles down the river at a camp meeting when your epistle arrived. We had a good meeting. Such preaching I had never heard. And to see thirty or more mourners seek religion at once and in the same manner as Blind Bartimeus would put you into conceit of choosing the "Good part", without delay if you had not already chosen it. My school at Sinnamohoning closed a few days before the camp meeting. After staying a week visiting clever people, eating good peaches, hearing preaching from eight different men, seeing so many fine sights, I trudged back up the river again conversing with a most agreeable man of the glorius sights we had seen, almost intoxicated with the new wine of the Kingdom and full of good purposes to live holy and useful lives. While at the meeting the directors of a school came to see me and would take no denial and insisted I should teach their school. Would be glad to engage me for nine months. I made a contract with them. They have a large school and they are wide awake. As my health is good and work is no grievance I hope to be able to do something with "young ideas". A very tough and mountainous country. Settlements with few exceptions are on the river. The mountains are beautiful I have found many plants strange to me. One of the most beautiful is the Rhodendron or rose bay tree. Improperly called laural. It blossoms in the spring about the same time as the laural but far surpasses that shrub in magnificance. It grows to ten feet, has a long leatherly evergreen leaf, the buds like the cones of a spruce before they open. The flower looks like an enormous rose. The forest trees are the same as in New York, (his description has been greatly contracted above)

Your friend George Vosberg.

Franklin Academy
Oct. 13, 1849

Dr. John D.Bancroft
South Bainbridge, N.Y.

Dear Parents,

I had hoped I should have received a letter from you before I should write. But because I have not been able to get time I intended las Monday to write so as to have a letter to go down last Wednesday but was unable to accomplish it and I have to take time now for I have more to do than I shall be able to accomplish this day. I dont know how I shall live if I shall always be hurried through the world in this style. But here to fore I have been able to count on Saturday as my own and have calculated to perform all miscillaneous business on this day but I have to be engaged in the Teachers Institute from 9 until 12 am and from dusk til 9:30 in eve. So you see my preparations before going in, that my time on Saturaday is tolerably used up. Since noon I have had to bring over from the village, prepare and bring up my room, wood enough to last through the week, I have got to learn a piece to speak next Friday evening and also wish to write a piece for the paper, which together with other things which I wish to perform. I am afraid it will be more than I am able to accomplish, so you must pardon my mistakes for I am not at all sorry I came back this term. For it seems to me I have learned more useful knowledge than I learned in a whole year when I study latin and Greek. But perhaps I am mistaken. I wish you could be here one evening and see how our Teachers Institute goes off. We have some students here who have been to several and we have been visited by some "big men" and they say it is carried off in the best style and has the largest number of students of any they have seen. There are a good many teachers who have come in and joined who do not attend the academy. I will tell you more when I come home.

If they conclude to hire me at Searl's Hill I want you should let me know immediately and when they wish to have it begin, because I want to be home at least a week before commencing and for a fort night if possible. But I also wish to attend the Teacher's Institute as long as possible. If they do not conclude to have me there you may do just as you like about getting me another. I have had a chance to teach in the County and where I could have $15 or $16 but it is some 20 miles from here and I shall prefer not to teach in this direction. I heard last night that the school by Uncle Birdsall's (Nathan) was not taken up. But that is such a small district I suppose they would not give much wages. But I dont wish to teach this winter unless I get at least $12. Mr Reynolds says he cannot afford to sell Websters Unabridged dictionary for less than $6. and then he makes less on it than he does on his other books. He can sell the abridged for $3.25. You must help me decide. With haste

Wm.Oscar Bancroft.

Sinnamahoning, Penn.
Oct. 13, 1850

Wm. Oscar Bancroft.
South Bainbridge, N.Y.

Dear Friend Oscar,

Your kind and prompt anser to my first letter after being in the hands of the U.S. 11 days reached this place in safety and as I now have the right to frank my letters, having been appointed in charge of the post office, I cheerfully devote a few moments to your service. My health is still good and my situation pleasant. I have too much employmee ever to feel home sickness. I am perfectly willing to adopt the plan of writing to you, hoping however that you will not limit your communications to that interval of three months if the opportunity is afforded.

I notice the ravages done by the freshets in your part of the country. Mr Wakeman I know very well. He has lived in Harpursville a long time.

This is a great lumbering country. All the business here is connected with lumbering. That is the soul inducement for a man to come in and settle here. (description of the beauties of the country)----------
I would be glad to induce your father to come and settle here. I think it would be better for your own health and as to business the field is wide open. This country is now looked to for the supply of lumber that all of Pennsylvania demands. There is no physician within 40 miles of us. When we are sick we are put to the greatest inconvenience and expense in sending for a doctor. Your father could do well here. We have tried to get a physician to settle here. But as yet we are unsuccessful. Please give him my respects and tell him that I and all the vicinity would be very happy to call him our neighbor. If he will come to doctor us when we are sick our purses will be liberal. We are trying hard to get a new County struck off from this and some of the adjoining counties and if we succeed this will be the county seat. This will in time be a place of some note. We are anxious to secure good, upright, industrious and scientific

men for citizens, now while our town is in its infancy that it may have a right direction given to the business, politics and morals of the place. Here-to-for the advantages for education and civilization have been limited. Schools have been few and far between. But a new interest is being awakened in this matter. A reformation will take place when the reformers shall become equal to the number of the whiskey men, which at this time are pretty numerous. Please give my respects to your father and mother. Edward sends his love to you. I remain sincerely your friend.

George R. Vosberg.

Wm. Oscar Bancroft
Bainbridge

Oscar Bancroft student in Franklin Academy wrote essays on the following subjects.

1. Making good use of time. (The improvement of time)
2. Decision making
3. The native Indian
4. The seasons.
5. A letter to a friedd.
6. Poetry - The Brides Farewell.
7. Poetry - Silver moon
8. On profane language.
9. Poetry - speak Gently
10 Justyfication of Hanging murderers.
11. Avarice.
12 Benevolence.
13 Thought
14 Intemperance.
15 Duelling
16 Wome's rights.
17 The memoir of a Tea Box.
18 Speech og Colnel Screw. Imagination
19 Personal Freedom
20 Crusade against vice - Intemperance, burning witches, etc.
21 Man is never contented.

B.D.Bancroft, Waterville Academy

1. Poetry - The Indian Hunter.

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Dr. John D. Bancroft.

Franklin Academy
Oct. 13, 1849 (2)

Dear Parents,

Our teacher here says we ought not to teach school with out one of them. I intend to purchase a book on Physiology, a Brown's Grammer from my room mate and I would like to purchase a new Arithmetic.

When class gets ready to enter into some new work Mr. Kerr lets him know how many are wanted and he has them here in the fall. My health is some better but it is not first rate. My eyes are very weak and finally the became inflamed again but I had the luck to get wome eye water from one of the students tha helped me amazingly, now I think they are out of danger. Still somewhat weak.

It has been very cold. I have had to burn about as much wood as I generally burn in the winter. And now that I am writing I have let the fire go down so that it is so cold I can hardly hold my pen. When I come into my room I change my stockings and shoes and have gotten along without any soreness of my throat for but only one day and then I took a dose af Andrews Pain Killer, which is as hot as Ceyenne peper and it affected an imediate cure. Give my respects to Mary Catharine and give little siss a kiss on each cheek for me. With my best wishes I remain your son

Wm Oscar Bancroft.

Franklin Academy
Oct. 21, 1849

Dear Parents,

Was glad to hear you were enjoying good health. The Weather has been so cold here. I was also glad to have the matter settled as to where I was to teach school. This school will probably be better for me than the others. It is probably less advanced and so less danger of my failing

Our teachers Institute was very interesting and instructive. I shall feel more than double the confidence to under take teaching this winter for my having attended. I can see how miserably I have always been taught in arithmetic. It seems a wonder I know as mutch as I do.

You can come after me the end of the week.

As ever, your affectionate son
William Oscar Bancroft.

THERE IS A GAP OF ELEVEN PAGES HERE

South Bainbridge, N.Y.

14 October 1849

Wm. O. Bancroft

Franklin, Delaware County, N.Y.

My Dear Son,

I have been gradually improving since you left. I am so I sit up most of the time and take care of my babe. She is well and gros finely. I ventured in the fathers room yesterday but do not feel very strong and have to keep still yet. Mary thinks she must leave us tomorrow. How we will get along then I do not know as we have as yet been unable to find another girl.

Father has been quite smart until last evening. Today he is quite poorly. Your uncle William, Aunt Harriet and their two eldest boys left for home this morning. They had been at Windsor. Harriet is still feeble but improving. Catharine is no better. We feel very anxious to hear from you, how you get along and when you wish to come home. A gentleman called here a few days ago after you left to let us know they depended upon you to teach their school on Searles Hill. Three months to commence the first Monday in December. John Wilkinson has taken the school in Bateman district at $10.00. Mary has got her likeness and a very good one. Says she would like to stay with me longer but her folks have sent word it would not do for her to stay longer.

Your Uncle Henry has been up to see Jane Cole. He thinks she has failed a great deal since she left his house. The probability is that she will not recover. I have sent a couple of your news wrappers and some other articles to your uncle Shephard which you must try and get should you feel the need of them. I am getting tired and must lie down.

Mother

Ma says I must finish your letter. But she might do it for she sits there laughing at me. So you see we are pretty comfortable. We have got all our corn in except a piece back of the wagon house. Have not sold our butter yet. We remain your affectionate parents.

John D. Bancroft

Delaware Lit. Institute, Oct 31, 1849

Wm.O.Bancroft has been a member of this Institution for several terms. He is a young man of the very best character, his whole conduct here has been as perfect as could be desired. There has never been a young man among us for whom I have a more sincere respect. His scholarship is as good as the very best teachers of district schools. All, he needs to make him the very best teacher is experience. I have no hesitation in recommending him as one who will please, and give entire satisfaction.

George Kerr, Principal, Del. Lit. Inst.

Dixon Illinois
November 7, 1849

Deaconn Samuel Martin.
Colesville, N.Y.
Dear Father,

I wish you would make a scetch of the Martin family and send to me. Also will you write a history of your own life. We do not want a book for publication but a plain statement in your own way of many things we do not know. And many things we shall forget without such a memorandum. I know such a work will be painful for you as the crushed hopes and blasted expectations of the past come up in review but it would not be without its pleasure and perhaps its profit. For the mercies of our God how sweet they are to the memory. How tender and pleasing the emotions which hover around the heart, as looking backward over the path of our pilgrimage we set up an Ebenezer and say "Hitherto the Lord hath helped me".

When I left home I had no expectation of being so long absent. Yet I have never seen the way prepared before me for my return. If the bretheren pay up well I will fare better in temperal things than I have before since I came west.

I am to have $300.00 per year and house rent which is $60.00 more. $100.00 is to come from the Home Mission Society. Not withstanding all this we have been more in want of necessary things since we came here than ever before. This arises partly from my getting so far behind last year when I was sick. And partly to an increase of expenses do to the increase of company. It costs more to live in town than in the country. Would not one of the girls like to come and stay for a year or so? Maybe he who tempers the wind for the shorn lamb, sacitify your afflictions and have you in his peculiar care and keeping. Your unworthy son

Samuel Sanford Martin.

There is an opening for a store. I wish some good Christian would come in now. Dixon is bound to go ahead.

New York City,
Dec. 14, 1849

Mr. Wm. Oscar Bancroft
Harpursville, N.Y.

Dear Cousin,

Determined that one more time should elapse before commencing at last to answer your letter. Mother, the little girls, William and myself went July 25th to Jefferson, Schoharrie County, to see Uncle Henry Pratt and Family. Stayed there about five weeks. During that time I had resolved to balance account with my correspondence. But there were so many inducements to ramble in the woods and fields, that my resolve was broken. It was very pleasant for us to leave the very hot and pestilence ridden city and travle over the mountains and I assure you we enjoyed the mountain air and the scenery vastly.

Aunts Matilda and Sarah were our house keepers during our absence, whom with Hiram we found well on returning. Not have been attacked by Cholera, which had been so awfully prevalent. I suppose you have not seen much of the plague around you, though have heard about it. Pa has this season been doinng business between Albany and New York. He is buying lumber on commission for his New York customers. He has done very well. Henry is in Albany with the Barnards. Hiram is at Mr. Wells mill on 29th St., Aunt Matilda went to Elmira about the first of November to spend the winter. Aunt Sarah is here for the winter. She is now reading a letter that has just now come in Aunt Matilda. Mrs. Currie is now boarding on Greenwich street. She has spent some time this summer at Clavarack. Mother went to and returned from Clavarack last week. There she left William to come home later. Do you think of entering University or any other college or does your health forbid. Please write.

Your affectionate Cousin.
Edward P. Crane.

Dear Son,

Your father says I should write some. We expected mother to be so anxious to go to Otego that she could hardly wait but when the opportunity came, she could not tell why, but she felt she could not go, But whenever you feel it is best to return home write and your father will come. I sat up till 11 oclock to finish your pantaloons but I toiled with pleasure hoping it will add to your bodily comfort, but, Oh, how impressively joyful would be my feelings, could I have the testimony that you are clothed with that robe which will never decay. Sister (Mary Catharine) continues to improve, talks some and almost walks. She has just been trying to get ahold of my pen. She is cutting about the lounge. I have not much news except that Draper has had Alvira down here for a week, is going to return with her, to take up his abode with father. Albert has been attending the teachers Institute at Oxford (Her brother Albert Martin). The Benedicts are all gone and our house stands empty. I want to go up and clear it as soon as possible. I have felt a good deal of anxiety about your having a school near home but the vacancies are all filled but this one. You had better obtain it if you can. Must close by subscribing myself as your affectionate mother,

L.B.Bancroft.

Wm. Oscar Bancroft taught a school in Bainbridge 1849-50 Dec 3
6 days a week 13 weeks 80 days
with Xmas vac.

Students			
Sherman Pearsall	16	Melissa Pearsall	15
Lewis Pearsall	20	L aura Ireland	9
Burton S arles	12	Leona Baldwin	8
James Sliter	14	Maria Ireland	8
Oscar R. Pearsall	9	Freelove Sliter	9 Matilda Pearsall
Abner Sarles	18	Matilda Pearsall	14
Joseph Sarles	18	Polly Pearsall	11
Geo. Ireland	7	Harriet Bill	9
Robert Sliter	8	Leafy Sarles	14
Thomas Sarles	9	Adeline Pearsall	7
Wm Sliter	12	Hulda Ireland	9
Joseph Sliter	5	Lydia Ireland	12
Wm. Miller	15	Charlotte Ireland	13
Almon S. Miller	18	Angeline Ireland	10
John Ireland	6	Alice Ireland	7
Wm. Herrick	14	Hulda Ireland	11
Edward Ireland	16	Esther Ireland	14
	17	Samantha Ireland	6 total 35 plus 2
			18 37

Pearsalls	3 boys	girls 4	7	
Sarles	3	1	4	Annis Ireland 15 joined class
Sliter	5	1	6	Marietta Ireland 15 late
Ireland	3	10	13 + 2	
Miller	2	0	2	
Herrick	1	0	1	
	six families.	1 Baldwin		
		1 Bill		total 8 families

term from Dec 8 to March 2

Average attendance of all boys 60% Over twelve years 46%
All girls 62% 59%

Taught by Wm. Oscar Bancroft
20 years of age.

New York City.
March 29, 1850.

Dear Cousin,

On receipt of your letter of the 15th of December I resolved to answer it within three weeks, but being engrossed in college studies have allowed as many months to pass. You must, however, give me credit for devoting the first dzy of a short vacation to this communication.

I much regretted to learn that you are afflicted with inflammation of the eyes. You have been much tried in the pursuit of your studies. But do not be discouraged.

You speak of the sons of Dr. White, one of them is in your class. The oldest graduated last year and he, Henry, was married in Albany Febr. 7, 1850, to Miss Julia Marie Seymore. They came down here and are now boarding with us. Henry is in partnership with Mr. Wells and is doing a good business in plaining and sawing lumber. Uncle John Henry has been in New York this winter and their son William is here permanently.. Mrs. Williams was summoned home to Clavarack by the telegraphic message announcing the sudden and dangerous illness of her adop= ted daughter. I understand the complaint is scarlet fever. Mrs. Curry and daughters are still boarding in the City, the latter are teaching school.

In sending love our family unite with your affectionate cousin,

Edward P. Crane.

Wm. Oscar Bancroft.
Bainbridge, N.Y.

Jan. 12. 1850.

Dear Sister (Mary)

I feel very stupid this afternoon and fear I shall not be able to say much. Yesterday I had a large washing which is the cause of my feeling as I do today.

This morning I received an invitation to go five miles into the country to visit together with several of my acquaintances. It is very cold and the roads rough so I do not think it could be prudent for me to go. I seldom visit or go from home at all except to church. On the 4th instance I was called out before daylight where circumstances compelled me to be Dr. and nurse. If you were here how much easier I could talk than write with head ache of mine. The little boys Palmer and Bruce are doing the best they can to keep quiet a while. Palmer is printing the letters that spell his name to send to Aunt Mary Ann. He will be five next April and is beginning to speel and read easy sentences. Bruce was two in October and the boys often mention their cousins in the east and sometimes wish they could go back and live. It would do us all good to see you. I wish some of you would come west to live. I presume I should consent to go there if Mr. Martin thought it best for us (Samuel Sanford Martin). My parents are getting old and while they live I wish to be near them, their children have most all gone on before them to the Spirit Land. Out of Eleven only four remain. I sympathize with you in

with you in your trials and responsibilities. What you have passed through has undoubtedly had a tendency to wean your affections from earth. Were it not for your little ones you might desire to repart. My prayer is that your life may be spared till they are able to stem the current of life alone. Kiss the dear ones for Aunt Myra. Please excuse me, my head feels so bad I cannot write any more. It is now time for the children to come from school, they will all write something for you,

Your affectionate sister Myra.

(There are brief notes from George S. Martin and Avis May Martin attached. P.M.B.)

Bainbridge, New York
June 7, 1850

Dear Cousin,

Pleasure to hear your father's family had not been invaded by the grim destroyer, death. Also, that they had not been visited by any dangerous illness, and that he has them all near to him again. Death has again entered our doors. You probably recollect that my mother's parents make their home with us. My grandfather (Elder John Birdsall) died the 24th day of April, 1850. We carried his body to Otego for burial. He was one of the first settlers in that region of the country. He was born in Dutch County. My grandmother is quite feeble, but still able to go around and visit her friends. If she continues well enough we think of taking her to Dutch County (Long Island) this fall, as she is very anxious to see the place where she spent the happy days of her childhood and some of her relatives still remain there.

As for myself, the blessing of health is not intrusted to me at present, and I have not much hope of ever being better. Yet, I feel I ought not to repine as I am still surrounded by many blessings which many others do not enjoy. I intend visiting some of the best physicians and surgeons in the state (he has bilateral inguinal hernias) and if they do not give me hope of being better, I shall probably not make any more attempts for a collegiate education. At present I am not doing much but trying not to lose what I have got. I am now studying anatomy under my father's tuition.

The spring has been very wet and cold so far. Farmers are much behind in their work. I have thought of making a proposal to you if agreeable. It is this: that we keep up a regular quarterly correspondence commencing with the first of June, 1850, writing regularly on the first of every third month thereafter. I dislike being repeatedly disappointed in not receiving a long expected epistle. This, of course, need not be a bar to writing oftener if the occasion requires. If you knew how much pleasure it gives us to hear from our distant friends, I am sure you would not mind spending a few minutes four times a year to write to us.

Give my best wishes to all for their welfare, and to your excellent parents. Remember me to your brothers and sisters, especially to Henry and his companion. May they be blessed with happiness and long life. My best wishes for your welfare, I remain your affectionate cousin,

William O. Bancroft

Edward P. Crane, New York City
in the large arithmetic workbook, home bound.

Madison University
July 23, 1850.

Very Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 15th inst. received. You wish to educate your son, retiring as you are from your farms, and advanced some what in years, probably no place in the State of New York would provide a more favorable and agreeable residence than the the village of Hamilton. There is almost everything; beauty, health, schools, churches, to make it pleasant for a family like yours.. You can now buy a residence or rent on better terms than you could in six months before. There are two very convenient dweklings belonging to the Education Society, either or both of which you could purchase or rent on modetate terms. Boarders you might get in either of them. It would be best for you to come and look at these places, perhaps you might calculate to be here at the time of our anniversary, in four weeks. You should be here for the meeting of the Madison Education Society (Baptist) of the State of New York on Tuesday August 20 and then Wednesday the commencement of Madison University and Theological Seminary.

Very Sincerely Yours,

P. B. Spear.

Dr. John D. Bancroft, Esq.

(Several of our ancestors attended this Baptist sponsored University. Notably Rev. Samuel Sanford Martin one of our prolific letter writers. Near this University which admitted only males was the private Hamilton Female Seminary, attended by Catharine the daughter of Dr. John D. Bancroft, Clora Amanda Martin who married Oscar Bancroft as his second wife as well as others in the family. The girls liked to refer to it as Mad. Sem Fan. There were marital advantages in being near the all male University. P.M.B.)

South Bainbridge, N.Y.
August 8, 1850.

Dear Son,

Yours of the 41st inst. received. You did right in in going on with your grandmother (Mrs. John Birdsall Jr. who was born on Long Island.). It would have been wrong for her to go on alone and would have hurt the feelings of her friends. Stay with her till she has had her visit out.

If there os any water cure establishment in your reach, visit it. as I have had some thought of becoming acquainted with them prospective to establish a Valonia Springs health Spa. For you yourself eventually to become the manager.

There was a tremendous smah up on the R.R. the other day. "Tis providence alone that secures". This together woth the inconvenience and expense of comming and the fattigur of the stage route induced me to propose meeting you at Clavarack with my own team, the 1st. of August.

If there is a R. R. communication with that going east, from Hudson you might set downnear Mr. Ellsworth Miller who married Eleanore Demarest or request to be set down at Clavarack as near Ed. Demarest or Jeremiah Williams, as pos= sible. If not come by way of steam boat and I will meet you st Hudson, as you did Aunt Tacy. Write me soon as possible Or if mother wishes to come home direct or wishes to stay longer write when and where I shall meet you, at Catskill, Deposit or elsewhere.

You say "you prayed". May God help you to pray for rgenerating grace and saving mercy through Christ. Of how much more importance of right direction in spiritual than in temporal things.

We are in usual health except ma has a bad cold and sore throat, but still does her usual work. We all feel pleased that you are well and enjoying your visit. Hope it will continue so. Almoira and baby send love to you and grandma. Baby has a tooth.

With love, Your father.

Dr. John D. Bancroft.

Wm. Oscar Bancroft
Hurd's Corners.
Duchess Co., N.Y.

Sinnamahoning, Penn.
Oct. 13, 1850

Wm. Oscar Bancroft.
South Bainbridge, N.Y.
Dear Friend Oscar,

Your kind and prompt anser to my first letter after being in the hands of the U.S. 11 days reached this place in safety and as I now have the right to frank my letters, having been appointed in charge of the post office, I cheerfully devote a few moments to your service. My health is still good and my situation pleasant. I have too much employmea ever to feel home sickness. I am perfectly willing to adopt the plan of writing to you, hoping however that you will not limit your communications to that interwal of three months if the opportunity is afforded.

I notice the ravages done by the freshets in your part of the country. Mr Wakeman I know very well. He has lived in Harpursville a long time.

This is a great lumbering country. All the business here is connected with lumbering. That is the soul inducement for a man to come in and settle here. (description of the neauties of the country)----------
I would be glad to induce your father to come and settle here. I think it would bebetter for your own health and as to business the field is wide opea. This country is now looked to for the supply of lumber that all of Pennsylvania demands. There is no physician within 40 miles of us. When we are sick we are put to the greatest inconvenience and expense in sending for a doctor. Your father could do well here. We have tried to get a physician to settle here. But as yet we are unsuccessful. Please give him my respects and tell him that I and all the visinity would be very happy to call him our neighbor. If he will come to doctor us when we are sick our purses will be liberal. We are trying hard to get a new County struck off from this and some of the adjoining countiesand if we succeed this will be the county seat. This will in time be a place of some note. We are anxious to secure good, upright, industrious and scientific men for citizens, now while our town is in its infancy that it may have a right direction given to the business, politics and morals of the place. Here-to-for the madvantages for education and civilization have been limited. School have been few and far bet2een. But a new interest is being awakend in this matter. A reformation will take place when the reformers shall become equal to the number of the whiskey men, which at this time are pretty numerous. Please give my respects to your father and mother. Edward send his love to you. I remain sincerely your friend.

George R. Vosberg.

Wm. Oscar Bancroft.
Bainbridge

Wm. Oscar Bancroft South Bainbridge, N.Y.
Franklin, Delaware County, N.Y. October 20, 1850

Dear Son, You will be disappointed in not seeing me as you expected But I had my horse harnessed to start when I first learned that grandmother was not intending to go. As you anticipate coming home so soon I thought it best not to come till you wished to return. I have called on the District in South Bainbridge, they have hired Mr. Walker. The school on the cross road but they had several applications and had concluded to hire one of them. The district in Wilkins neighborhood have a female school. Our district is not supplied yet. If you need money before I come you must borrow from Mr. Sullard. Write when I must come and the amount of money you will need. Your things I have sent by the stage driver from North Bainbridge. Your watch is in the pocket of your pantaloons. The proposition of your going to New Jersey your mother would hardly approve. We would rather you sttend at Franklin for the winter.

Yours

Dear son, Father.

Your father says I should write some. We expected mother to be so anxious to go to Otego that she could hardly wait but when the oppotunty came , she could not tell why, but she felt she could not go, but whenever you feel it is best to return home write and your father will come. I sat up till 11 oclock to finish your pantaloons but I toiled with pleasure hoping it will add to your bodily comfort, but, Oh, how inexpressively joyful would be my feelings, could I have the testimony that you are clothed with that robe which will never decay. Sister (Mary Catharine) continues to improve, talks some and almost walks. She has just been trying to get ahood of my pen. She is cutting about on the lounge. I have not much news except that Draper has had Alvira down here for a week, is going to return with her, to take up his abode with father. Albert has been attending the teachers Institute at Oxford (Her brother Albert Martin). The Benedicts are all gone and our house stands empty. I want to go up and clear it as soon as possible. I have felt a good deal of anxiety ahbut your having a school near home but the vacancies are all filled but this one. You had better obtain it if you can. Must close by subscribing myself as your affectionate mother,

L.B.Bancroft.

South Bainbridge, N.Y.
October 20, 1850

Wm. Oscar Bancroft
Franklin, Delaware County, N.Y.

Dear Son, You will be disappointed in not seeing me as you expected But I had my horse harnessed to start when I first learned that grandmother was not intending to go. As you anticipate coming home so soon I thought it Best not to come till you wished to return. I have called on the District in South Brainbridge, they have hired Mr. Walker. The school on the cross road but they had several applications and had concluded to hire one of them. The district in Wilkins neighborhood have a female school. Our district is not supplied yet. If you need money before I come you must borrow from Mr. Sullard. Write when I must come and the amount of money you will need. Your things I have sent by the stage driver from North Bainbridge. Your watch is in the pocket of your pantaloons. The proposition of your going to New Jersey your mother would hardly approve. We would rather you attend at Franklin for the winter.

Yours
Father.

Oct. 20, 1850.

Dear Son,

When ever you think ir is best to come home father will come for you. --- Sister Mary Catharine continues to improve, talks some and almost walks.

Draper has had Alvira down here for a week, is going to return with her to take up his abode with father.

The Benedicts are all gone and our house stands empty. ---.

Your affectionate mother,

L.B.Bancroft

Wm. Oscar Bancroft
Franklin, Delaware Co., M.Y.

The following material was used by Dr. J.D.Bancroft and his son Wm.Oscar in debat ing the slavery issue.

The Original Antislavery Agitators.

There is not a man living who holds more sincerely than I do to see a plan adopted for the abolition of slavery, April 12, 1756. George Washington.

The scheme, my dear Marquis, which you propose to open as a precident to encourage the emancipation of the blacks of the country from the state of bondage in which they are now held is a striking evidence of the benevolence of your heart. Letter to La Lafayette, 1783 , from George Washington.

It is the most ernest wish of america to see an entire stop forever to the wicked, cruel and unnatural trade in slaves. Meeting at Fairfax Virginia July 15, 1774, presided over by Washington.

I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just. Jefferson's notes on slavery in Virginia 1782.

The King of Great Britain has waged cruel war against human nature itself, violating its most sacred rights of life and liberty, in the persons of a distant people who never offended him, by capturing them and carrying them into slavery in a distant hemisphere or to insure miserable death in the transportation hither. Jeff. draft of declaration of independence.

After the year 1800 of the Chritian Era there Shall be neither slavery nor involutary servatude in any of the said states or territories in the U.S.A. Jefferson's ordinance of 1787, Unanimously approved by Congress and signed by Washington.

We have seen the mear distinction of color made in the most enlightened period of time a ground of the most oppressive dominion ever excersized by man over man. James Madison.

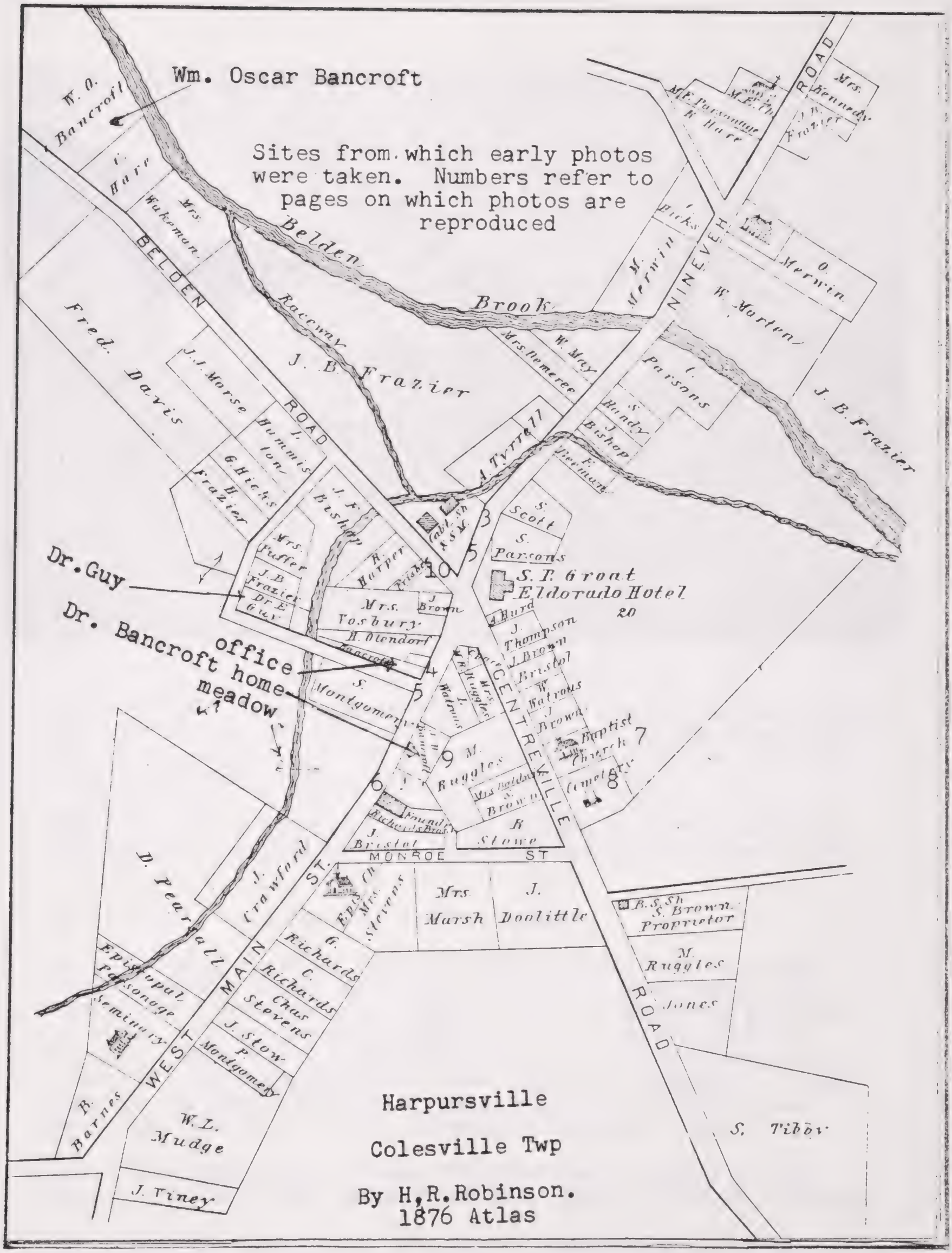
We have found that this evil has preyed upon upon the very vitals of the Union and has been prejudicial to all the States in which it has existed. James Madison.

The tariff was only the pretexed and discussion and a Southern Confederacy the real object, the next pretext will be the negro or Slavery question. Andrew Jackson, 1833.

Sir, I envy niether the heart nor the head of that man from the North, who rises here to defend slavery, on princaple. John Randolph of Roanoke.

Chapter Two

Maps & Pictures


Wm. Oscar Bancroft
Sites from which early photos were taken. Numbers refer to pages on which photos are reproduced
Belden Brook
Raceway
J. B. Frazier
BELDEN ROAD
NINEVEH ROAD
CENTREVILLE
MAIN ST
WEST ST
MONROE ST
S. P. Groat
Eldorado Hotel
Dr. Guy
Dr. Bancroft office
home
meadow
Baptist Church
Cemetery
Harpursville
Colesville Twp
By H. R. Robinson.
1876 Atlas

Main St. looking Southeast

Harpursville, New York, very much as it was in the Bancroft era, except for the hotel, in the distant background. Here Wm.Oscar had a store and was Post Master. The doctor's home and office building are not visible.

When the roads were bad the doctor went on horse back or rode a two wheeled "sulky" like the one in the central forground.

On the left is a farm or lumber wagon.

On the right is a two seated vehicle drawn by a team and a one seated vehicle drawn by one horse. They were well upholstered and were for family use. We would be inclined to think of them as carriages but they spoke of them as wagons. When Dr. J.D.Bancroft took his new bride to Boonville in the Adirondacks he took her in a "wagon". To be sure it was not a lumber or farm wagon but one of these vehicles appropriate for a physician and his lady.

The doctor often made house "visits" in a single seated "wagon" drawn by one horse. In the winter he used a sleigh.

The elaborate coaches of the great plantations or of the eastern aristocracy were not to be found in this young economy in which money was scarce and barter was still common.

The front of the Eldorado Hotel is in the immediate left foreground. Looking south-west across the intersection, up Main street, one can see the end of the Bancroft home. It is in the distance just to the right of the store building in the center of the picture,

Harpursville home owned successively by Dr. Purinton and Dr. J.D.Bancroft, viewed from south west.

The Bancroft home in Harpursville faces west-northwest. This picture taken on a dark day is not very attractive. But it shows the large porch-across the front, the three chimneys and the "T" shape of the structure. The large court-yard, barn, wagon-shed, and the two meadows directly across the street provided for the needs of his animals and those of visitors.

The Bancroft Home Today

When the hotel burned the large Bancroft home was converted into an hotel. Additional rooms were gained by adding a house of modern design in place of the summer kitchen. The annex is clearly visible in these pictures.

BELDEN STREET, Harpursville, N. Y. "Pub. by Bristol Drug Store"

Looking north west up Beldon street. Note 1910 car.

Harpursville in 1910

RIVER STREET, Harpursville, N. Y. "Pub. by Bristol Drug Store"

Looking north-west toward village center on River street (Centerville road) at the old Baptist church.

RIVERVIEW CEMETERY, HARPURSVILLE, N. Y.

Riverview Cemetery adjacent to the Baptist church, the Susquehanna river is just beyond. The families of Dr. J.D.Bancroft and Wm. Oscar Bancroft are buried here.

The Home of Wm. Oscar Bancroft in Nineveh, N.Y., it was here that William D. Bancroft was born in 1866. Oscar had a general store here.

Home of Samuel Martin Jr., (1791=1855) on Cole's Hill, Broome County. N.Y. Destroyed by fire in 1930. His wife Melinda Crofut (1793-1847

Jane Martin
Wm. Oscar's first wife

Clora Amanda Martin, cousin of Jane
Wm. Oscar's second wife

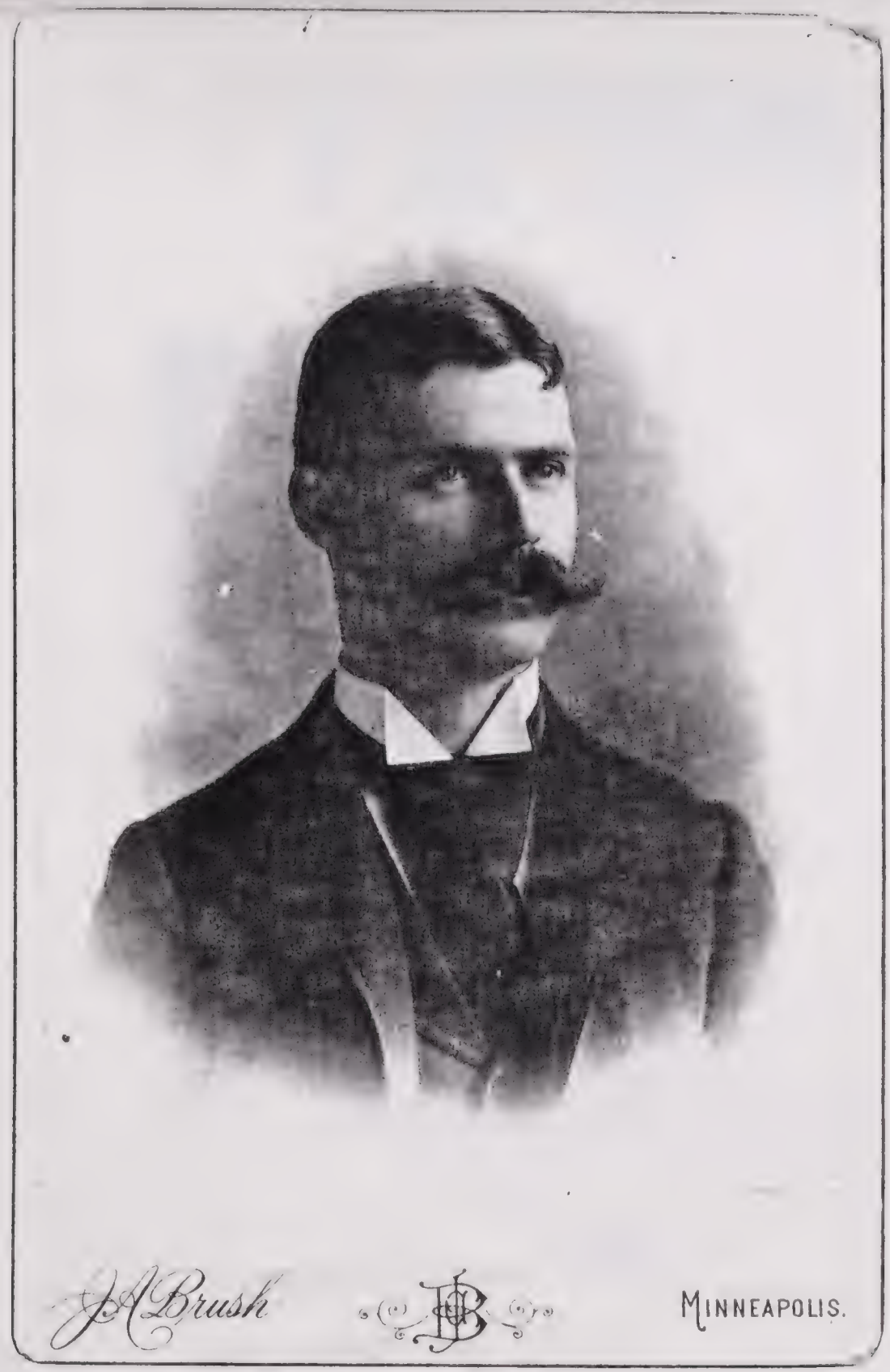
Wm. Oscar Bancroft (1830 - 1887)
Merchant
Post Master
Justice of Peace
Civic Leader

One of Wm. Oscar's Stores.

Mary Catharine Bancroft

Park Cotrell divinity student

Her first love



Reverend Alvah Sabin Hobart

Mary Catharine (Bancroft) Hobart

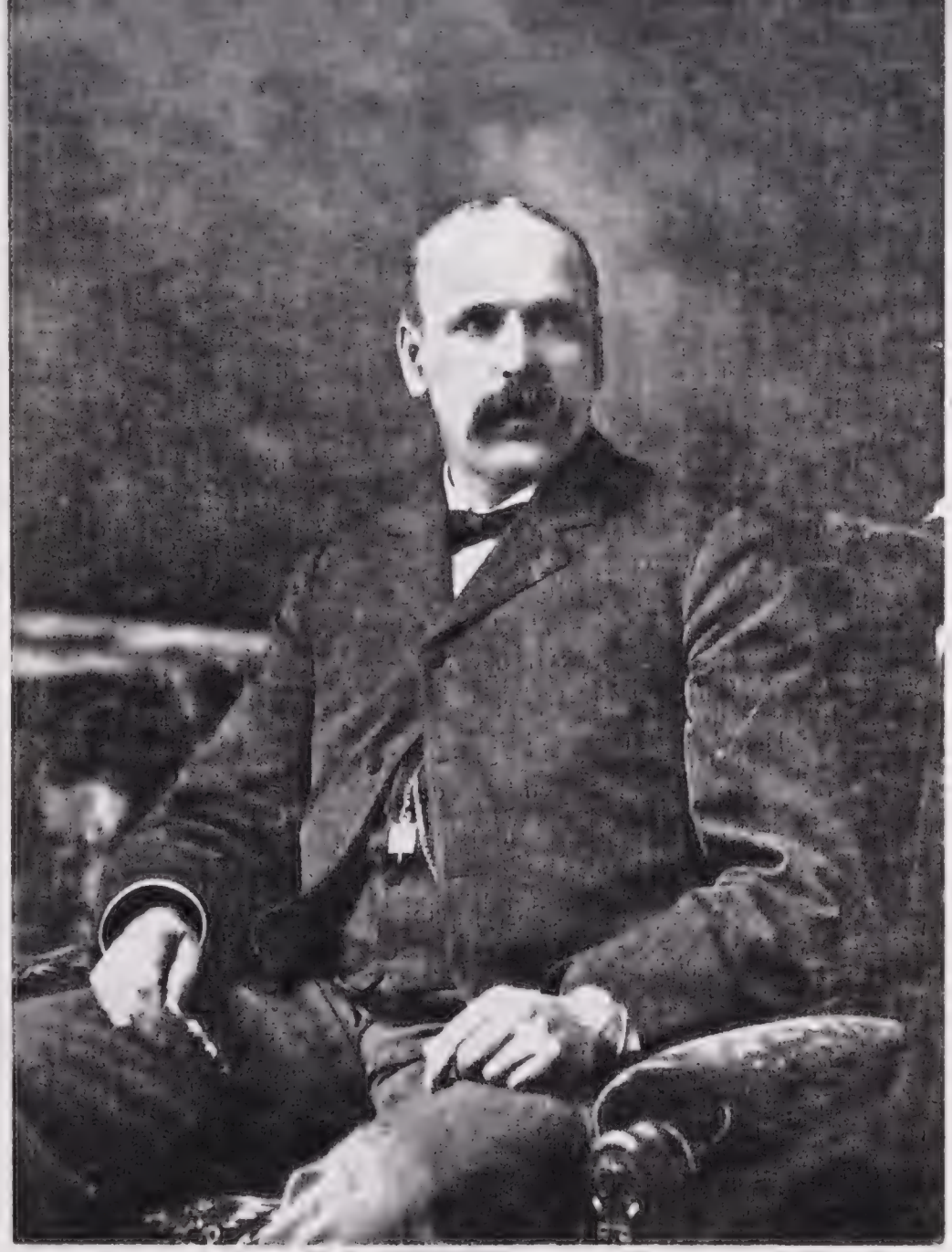
GEO. H. ROCKWOOD

907 SEVENTH AVE.
(57th St. near MUSIC HALL.)
NEW YORK.

Aunt Katy Hobart

Rev. Alva Sabin Hobart

17



Alva Sabin Hobart

Aunt Katy
Mary Catharine (Bancroft) Hobart

18

Hamilton Female Seminary

Also known as the Madison Female Seminary because of its proximity to Madison University. The girls often referred to it as Mad. Fem. Sem.

Caty's report card showed grades that exceeded 100. The school master reported that she not only led her class but led the whole school scholastically.

Clora Amanda Martin was a student here. The curiculum included music, art, French and domestic skills. They were spared the more difficult subjects which were better "suited for the stronger masculine minds" in the all male university.

ThenHarpursville Bancrofts enjoyed many sports and games-

Coasting on sleds
Sleigh rides
Bob-sledding
Ice skating
Snow shoeing
Hayrack rides
Hunting
Fishing
Maple sugaring
Baseball

They had a host of indoormand outdoor games and contests. In an effort to improve their society there were church, Lodge, debating societies, temperence organizations and womens groups.

This is probably Cord K. Aller who was a very good friend of my father when he was in charge of the Crete Y.M.C.A. and with Aller a Doane student and cycling enthusiast. The modern low bicycle was introduced as the"safety" cycle for good reason. And there-in lies a tale that reveals the aspirations of W. D. Bancroft. PMB.

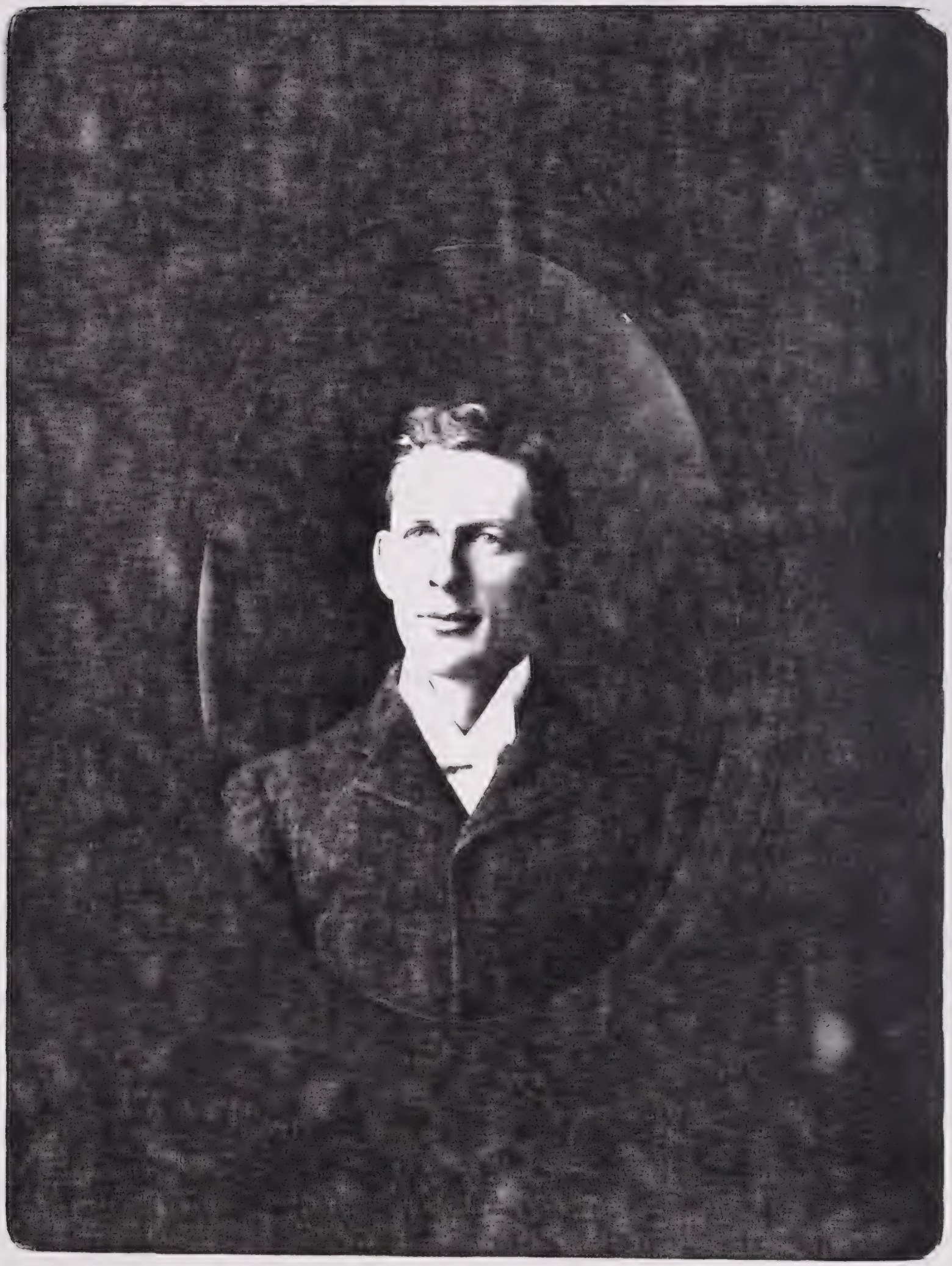
William D. Bancroft
boy of harpursville, N.Y.

W. D. Bancroft
Y.M.C.A. Secretary
Medical student

of Crete
Nebraska

His beard betrays his
professional ambition

Rev. W. D. Bancroft preacher of
pioneer Nebraska in
Tacama, Lorton and
Palmyra. Nebr.



Clark Hobart Bancroft

Harpursville boy

Rev. Clark H.

Bancroft, in Crete &

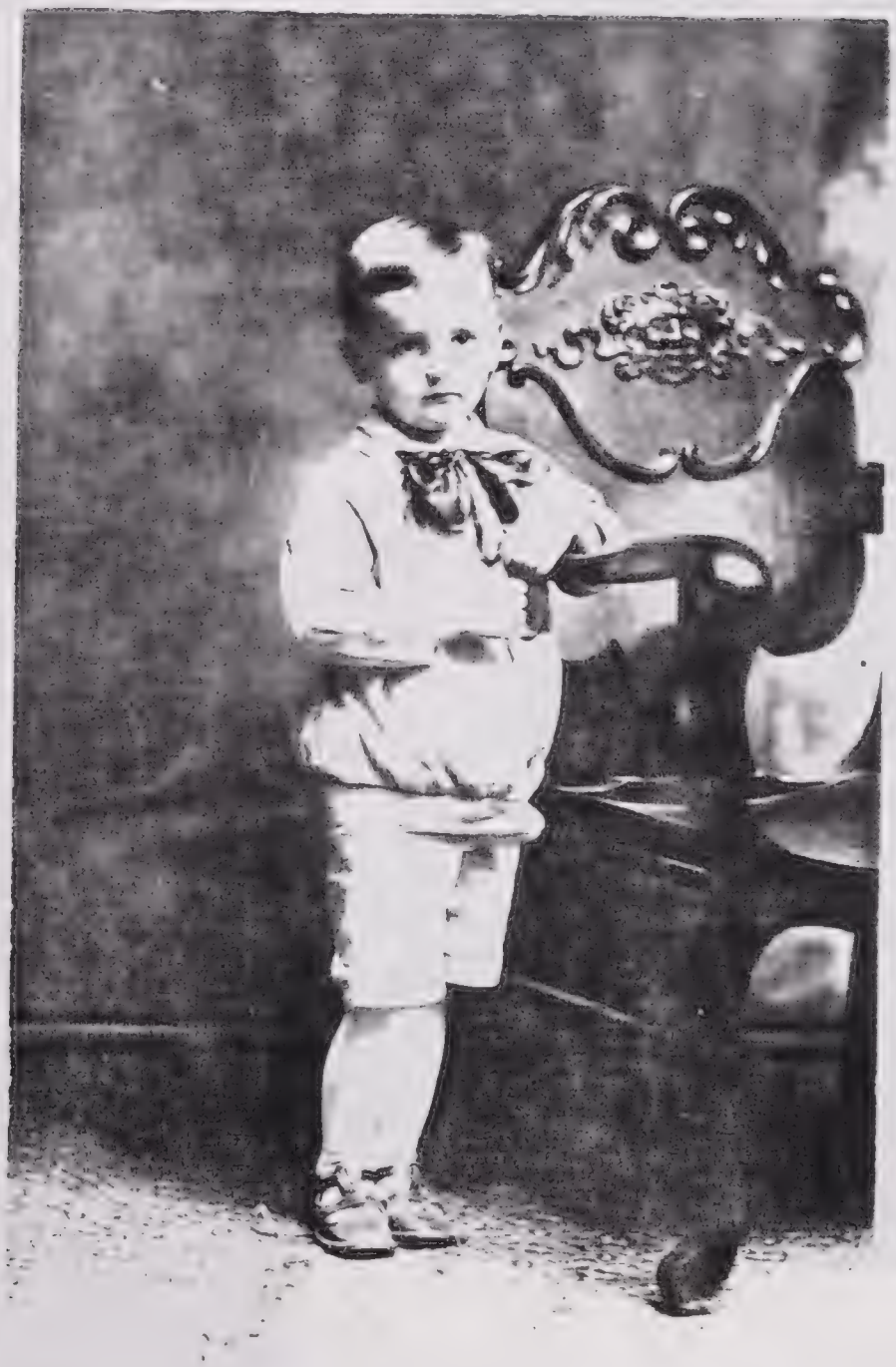
lincoln, Nebr.

Laura
(Bancroft)
Dunsmore

Marian
(Bancroft)
Cutler

Catharine (Bancroft) Bruce not pictured.

Elmore Bancroft



Elmore
Bancroft

Clark Bancroft came west at about 17 years and en- an academy in Owatonna, Minn.

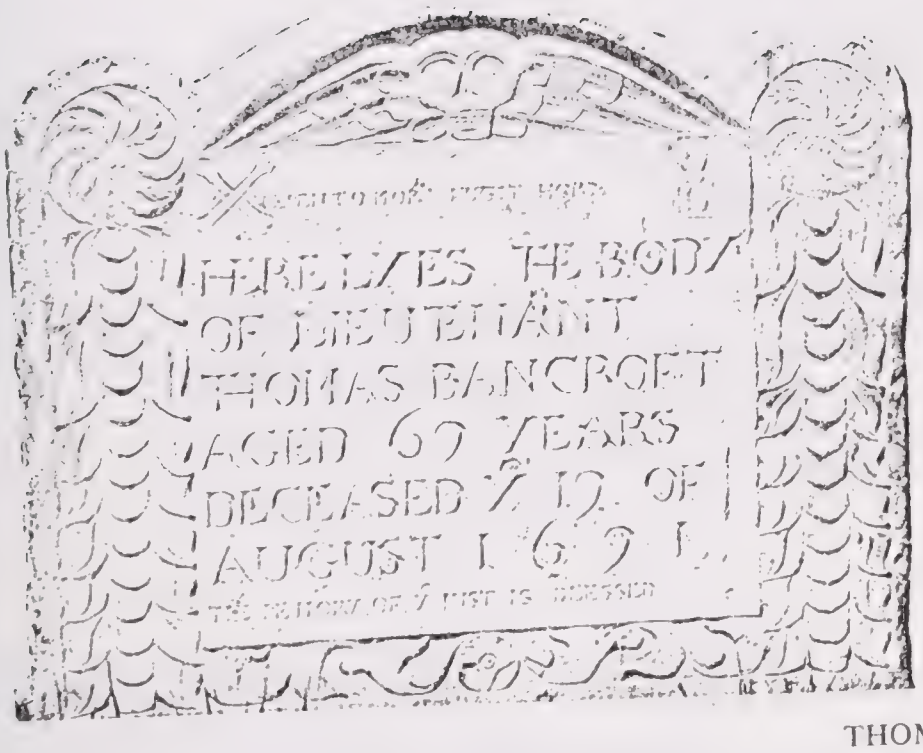
At 26 years the young preacher in pioneer Nebraska in 1900.

Rev. Clark H. Bancroft pioneer Nebraska
Preacher

The stone of John D. Bancroft in the River View Cemetery at Harpursville, N.Y. In his obituary and on this stone are the only places that we have found the M.D. designation used. His son, after his father's death, probably sought to honor his father in this way. He was better educated than most doctors in the county but did not qualify for the medical degree. See the discussion of medical education.

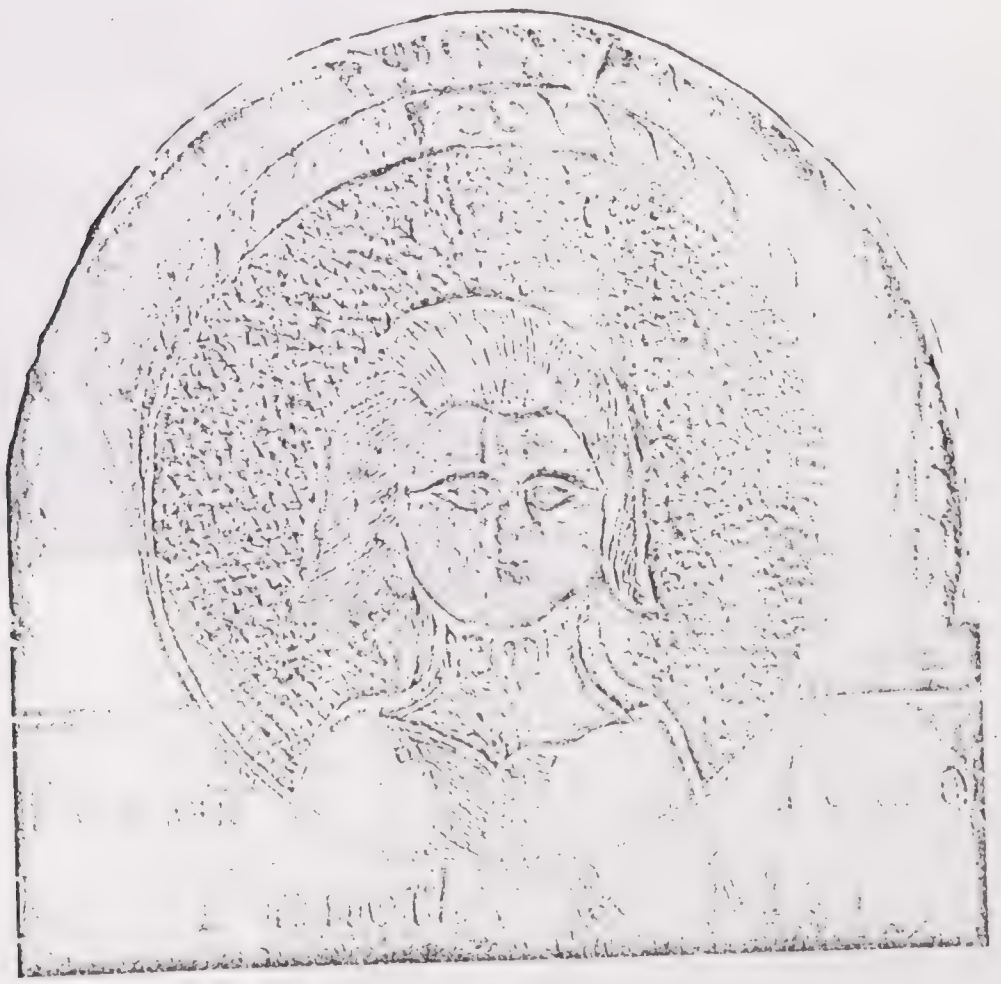
Grave Stone in Oskaloosa, Iowa

The name of Louisa (Mayham) O'Hara was added in 1913.



HERE LYES THE BODY
OF LIEUTENANT
THOMAS BANCROFT
AGED 69 YEARS
DECEASED YE 12 OF
AUGUST 1 6 9 1

THOMAS BANCROFT, WAKEFIELD, 1691



PETER BANCROFT, AUBURN, 1786

We have been unable to identify this child. He was probably descended from John and Jane. P.M.B.

Program.

—GIVEN BY—

THE PALMYRA CHORAL UNION

—IN THE—

DOUGLAS OPERA HOUSE.

FRIDAY EVENING, FEB. 16, 1900, AT 8 O'CLOCK.

Miss Grainger, Accompanist.

Chorus.	Mountain Shepherd Song.	Abt.
Humorous Quartet.	The O. P. R. A.	Leslie.
	Miss Thaler, Mrs. Bancroft, Messrs. McGrew and Grainger.	
Solo.	The Song That Reached My Heart.	Jordan.
	C. R. Travis.	
Male Quartet,	The Old Home Down on the Farm.	Whittaker.
	Messrs. McGrew, Ockerman, Grainger and Stever.	
Chorus.	The Heavens Are Telling.	Haydn.
Solo.	Lullaby.	Dennee.
Humorous Quartet,	The Professor at Home.	Bliss.
	Miss Johnston, Mrs. Bancroft, Messrs. Ockerman and Hayden	
Male Chorus,	On the Sea.	Buch.
Duet,	Robin Is Coming Again.	Jacobs.
	Mrs. Bancroft and Mr. Travis.	
Male Quartet,	Until the Dawn.	Parks.
Chorus,	Praise Ye The Father	Gounod.

C. R. TRAVIS,

Scheme.

Toast-Master,	*W. B. STELLE.*
Oration,	H. E. Newell.
History,	R. M. Traver.
Music—Piano Solo,	J. W. Hall.
Prophecy,	H. E. Purinton.
Poem,	G. L. Rifenburgh.
Music,	Quartette.
Souvenirs,	W. D. Bancroft.

Committee.

B. F. WELTON, H. E. NEWELL, G. W. COBB.

Colgate Theological Seminary

BANQUET

—AND—

CLASS * DAY * EXERCISES,

C. A., '90,

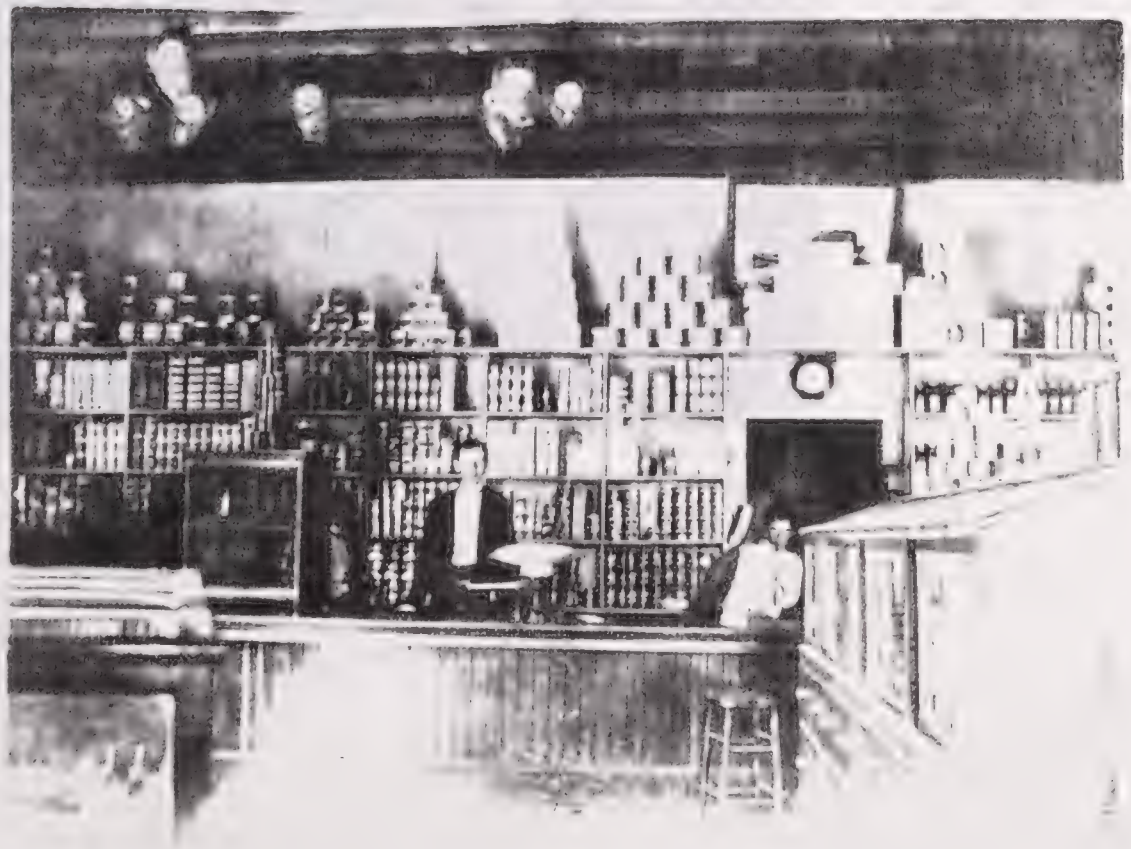
PARK HOUSE, HAMILTON,

—MAY, 1890.—

26b

Aunt Lott (Ohara)
Mrs. Samual Lowden
in her garden in Honolulu

Samual Lodon's store (imports & exports
W.D.Bancroft at counter, left reae



Lottie (Ohara) Lowdon and Samuel Lowdon
in their Honolulu Home

TELEPHONE WHITE 3091

Honolulu, T. H., ... 190

M.

TO THE TRIANGLE STORE, DR.

W. D. BANCROFT, MANAGER

RETAIL DEALERS IN

Groceries, Provisions, Cigars, Tobacco, General Merchandise

649 S. KING ST., COR. SOUTH ST.

Terms—Bills Payable Monthly

PB-MERCANTILE PTG. CO., LTD.

It was in this store on invitation from Auny Lott and at her expense that that the young preacher and his wife put the finger on an embezzler. Their identities were cocealed as they applied for employment as clerk and secretary. Mr. Lowden, Lotts husband, part owner of the store, was astonished when their identity was revealed.
And to add to the novelty of this experience mother gave birth to her twins here.

Liela (O'Hara) McNerney
James McNerney, Atty.
Louise

Frank Myers holding
Henry or Herbert

Pearl (O'Hara) Myers, mother's twin died in 1918 leaving two boys. This brought us back to Lincoln.

Lt. Col. Marcus Weldon, Ph D.
Pauline (Bancroft) Weldon
Doris
Jimmy

Generous Donors to this project

James Madison
Weldon
1905

Margaret (Dunlap)
Weldon

Hobart David Bancroft

1900

1908

Hobart David Bancroft

Hobart
Irene (Hastings) Bancroft

Eleanor Cathrine

Dorothy Louisa Bancroft

Violinist
Medical Technician
Womans Army Air Corp
  Pilot
  Link Trainer Instructer
Most talented of the 10th
  generation

David Hammett
Dorothy (Bancroft) Hammett

Elizabeth

Paula

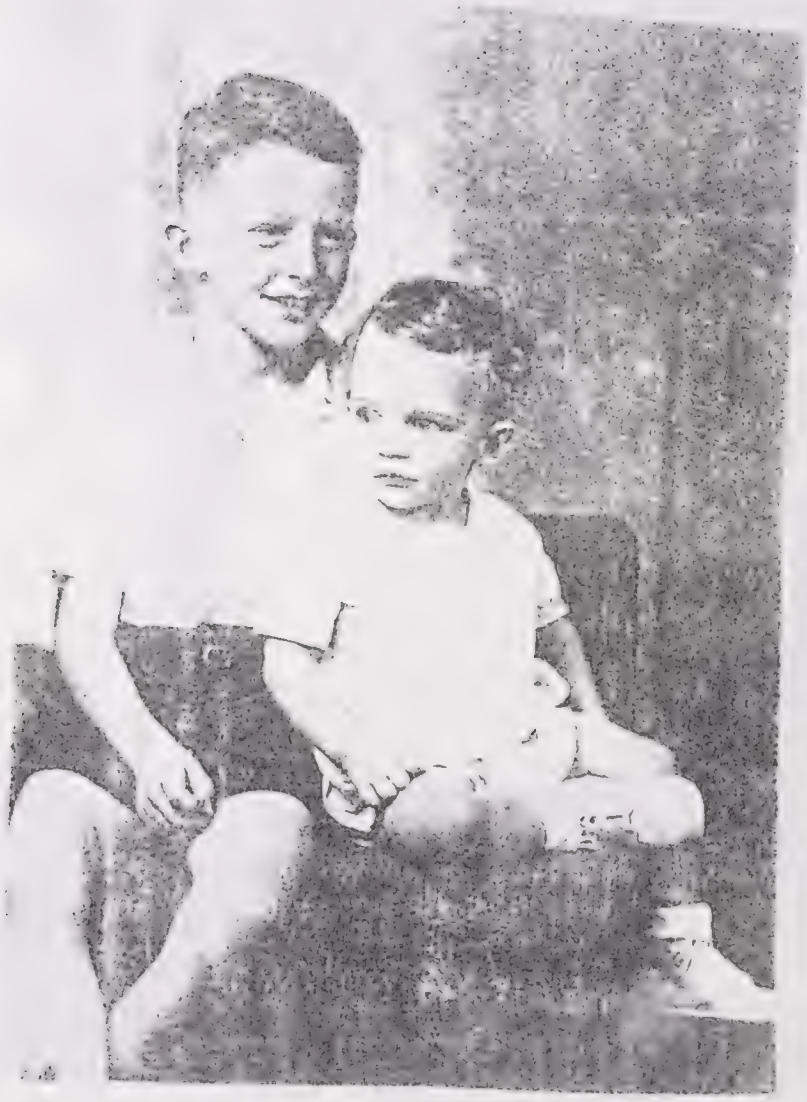
Dorothy (Bancroft) Hammett

and

David Hammett

Generous donors to this project

Grace Elizabeth (Jones)
Bancroft



John Morgan

William Hobart

My practice began in a partnership with Dr. E.S.Wegner in a downtown office. Women with children began complaining about parking in the city center so we moved to this small office in a residential setting at 33rd and A streets. A very fortunate move.

My practice was limited to infants, children & adolescents. We cultivated an informality, abandoning the white starched jacket for a white shirt and a relaxed manner. The day of the stern authoritarian had passed

Happy years when
little boys and
their wagons
were important

P.M.B. and
John Morgan

Floradell

Dr. Johnson's cabin where the Bancrofts were frequent guests. The location is near Tunnel, Wisconsin,

Floradell - Near Tunnel City, Wisconsin - Cabin of Dr. Johnson of Tomah. Wisconsin

Pauline - Mother - Dorothy -Father - Hobart

Hobart - Dorothy - father - Mother - Dorothy

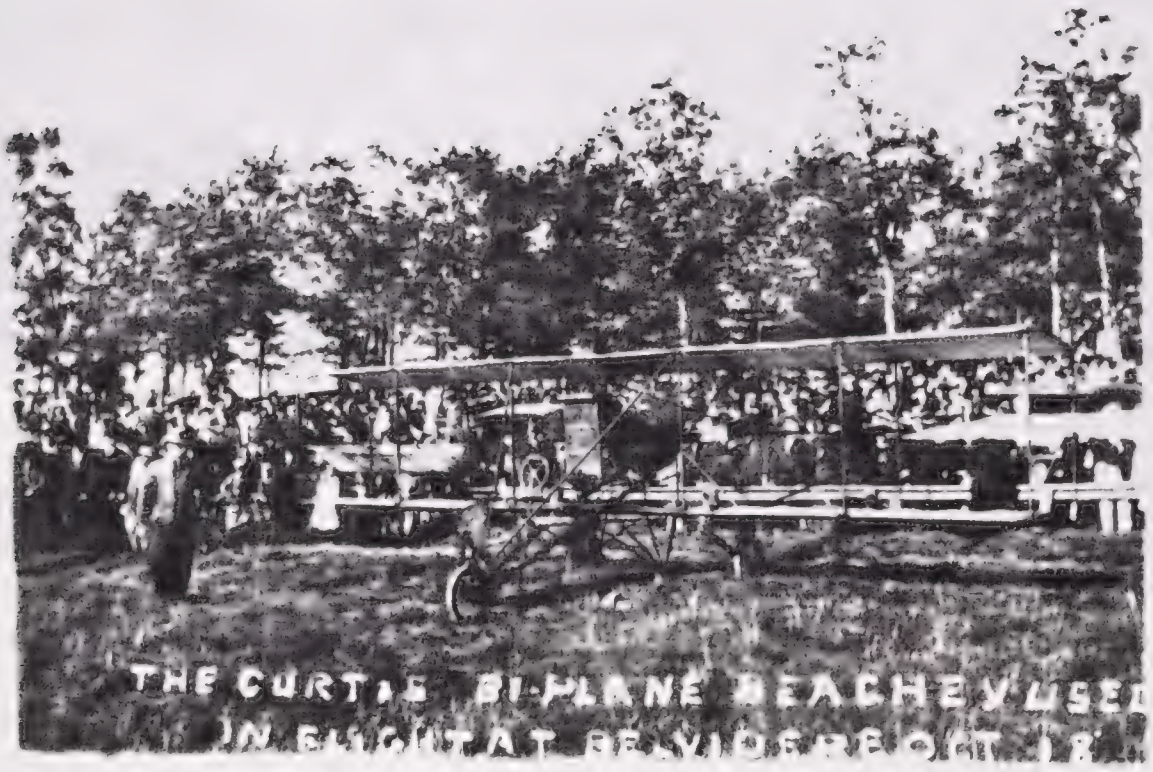
Goodyear Lumber Companies guest lodges
on Lake Blue Bill, upper pen-
ninsula of Michigan.
Hobart was store keeper and father managed the farm that provided fresh vegetables and beef for lumber camps.

Anderson farm laborer and Paul, dressed to the taste
of a "teen ager".

Horky's Park now Blue River Lodge

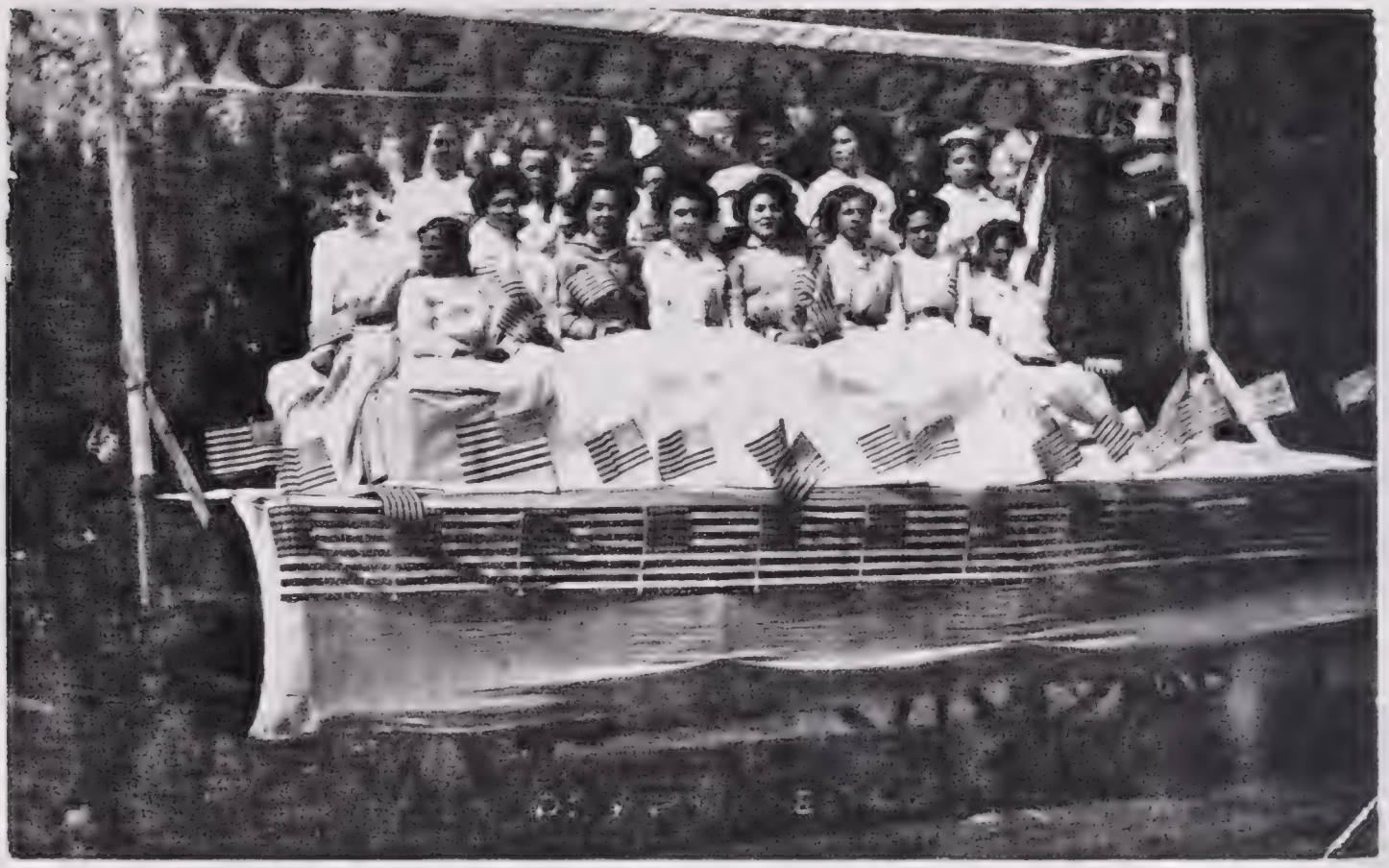
1918

From left to right - Henry Myers - Dorothy - Pauline - Mother - Herbert Myers - Paul - W.D.B.
Pearl (O'Hara) Myers died in March of 1918. We Bancrofts returned to Nebraska so mother could care for her twin sisters boys.



The whole history of airplanes encompassed by the 20th Century. I worked for a time with a tall thin young man, we called him "slim". That was before the flight that made Lindberg famous.

Prohibition Campaign 1910



FAMILY TEMPERANCE SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION.

This society shall be composed of John D. Bancroft and Laura B. Bancroft and such other members of our family as shall hereunto subscribe their names.

In forming the constitution, we pledge ourselves to observe the following rules.

1. We will use no ardent spirits ourselves, nor suffer the use of them in our families, nor present them to our friends, or those in our employment, unless in cases of extreme necessity for medical purposes.

2. Those of us who are or shall hereafter become heads of families solemnly agree to teach our households the principles of entire abstinence, and use our best endeavours to obtain their signatures to this constitution.

3. A copy of this constitution shall be pasted in our family Book, to which our children (if any) shall be often pointed as the act of their parents, and we solemnly enjoin it on them, as they revere our memories, sacredly to regard these our sentiments.

SIGNATURES

John D. Bancroft

Laura B. Bancroft

Wm O Bancroft

Mary Caity Bancroft

No. 112.

TAXPAYER: I awfully hate to have the boys slide there, but I believe in PERSONAL LIBERTY—and then there's SUCH a REVENUE from it; and——and I'm afraid I'll be BOYCOTTED if I don't let 'em slide.

Published by the National Temperance Society and Publication House, 58 Reade Street, New York.
Price $1 per 1,000. Postage 30 cts.

Rev. W. D. Bancroft began his ministry in small rural Baptist Churches in Palmyra, Lorton, Cedar Rapids and Talmadge, Nebraska.

PROGRAM

Fifty-Seventh Annnal Session
La Crosse Valley Baptist Association
to be held
With the Baptist Church at Tomah, Wis.

June 10 - 12, 1913

Here he enjoyed his most satisfactory pastorate. He returned here for a second term.

1374 South Baptist Church, Belvidere, Ill.

This church in Belvidere, Ill., was his first large city church. This was followed by similar churches in Wausau, Wisconsin and Irving Park in Chicago.

The church at Port Huron, Michigan, was a large church and his last regular pastorate. He resigned in 1918 to return to Nebraska and retirement from the pulpit.

Chapter 3

Medical Photos

Circular

and

Catalogue

of the

Faculty and Students

of the

College of Physicins and Surgeons

of the Western District of the State of New York

In Fairfield (Herkimer County)

FACULTY

College of Physicians and Surgeons

of the Western District of the State of New York

January 1828

Joseph White, M.D. President

Westel Willoughby, M.D., Vice President & Professor of Obstetrics.

James Hadley, M.D. Professor of Chemistry & Materia Medica.

T. Romayne Beck, M.D. Professor of the Theory & Practice of Physic & Medical Jurisprudence.

James McNaughton, M.D. Professor of Anatomy & Physiology.

John D. La Mater, M.D. Professor of Surgery.

CIRCULAR

AND

CATALOGUE

OF THE

FACULTY AND STUDENTS

OF THE

College of Physicians and Surgeons

Of the Western District of the State of New-York.

IN FAIRFIELD, HERKIMER COUNTY.

FACULTY.

Of the College of Physicians and Surgeons

Of the Western District of the State of New-York,

JANUARY, 1828

JOSEPH WHITE, M. D. *President.*

WESTEL WILLOUGHBY, M. D. *Vice-President and Professor of Botany.*

JAMES BRADLEY, M. D. *Professor of Chemistry and Materia Medica.*

F. ROMEYN BECK, M. D. *Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic and Medical Jurisprudence.*

JAMES M'NAUGHTON, M. D. *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.*

JOHN DE LA MATER, M. D. *Professor of Surgery.*

LITTLE FALLS:
PRINTED BY EDWARD M. GRIFFIN.
1828

To all to whom these presents shall come
or may in any wise concern

The President and Members of the Medical Society of the County of Somerset and State of New-Jersey greeting

Whereas the Bearer **hath exhibited unto us** satisfactory testimony that he hath studied **PHYSIC and SURGERY** for the term and in the manner directed by Law and hath also upon examination in our Courses given sufficient proof of his proficiency in the Science and of his moral character.

Wherefore by virtue of the powers vested in us by law We do grant unto the said Bearer the privilege of practising Physic and Surgery in this State together with all the rights and immunities which usually appertain to **PHYSICIANS and SURGEONS**. In witness whereof we have caused this Diploma signed with our seal and testified by our President and Secretary at Burlington this 14 day of January in the year of our

LORD 1828

[illegible] President

[illegible] Secretary

To all to whom these presence shall come
or may in anywise concern

The President and Members of the Medical Society of the
County of Herkimer and State of New York send Greetings

WHEREAS John D. Bancroft hath exhibited unto us satisfactory testimony that he hath studied PHYSIC AND SURGERY for the term and in the Manner directed by Law and hath also upon examination by our Censors given sufficient proofs of his proficiency in the healing art and of his moral character.

WHEREFORE by virtue of the powers vested in us by law, we do grant unto the said John D. Bancroft the privilege of practicing Physic and Surgery in this State together with all the rights and immunities which usually appertain to Physicians and Surgeons, in witness whereof we have presented this diploma sealed with our seal and testified by our President and executed at Fairfield this 14th day of January in the year of our Lord 1828.

M. Johnson M.D., Secretary

Westel Willoughby M.D., Vice President

Lecture Tickets

J. D. Bancroft bought these tickets in 1827 to admit him to the medical lectures in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the Western District in Fairfield, N.Y. This was a branch of the older college in New York City and was designed to meet the needs of Upper New York State.

In that day, professors received little or no salaries from the school. They were expected to sell tickets and derive their income directly from their students. You will note that Dr. McNaughton's tickets are quite plain, but the others were elaborately ornamented, no doubt to enhance their sale. This commerce in the sale of tickets was very inconvenient for the professors.

These tickets admitted John to the following lectures:

Anatomy & Phsiology - James McNaughton, M.D.
Medical Jurisprudence - T. Romeyn Beck, M.D.
Obstetrics & Mid-Wifery - Westel Willoughby, M.D.
Chemistry & Materia Medica - James Hadley, M.D.

The law afforded the medical student with three options:

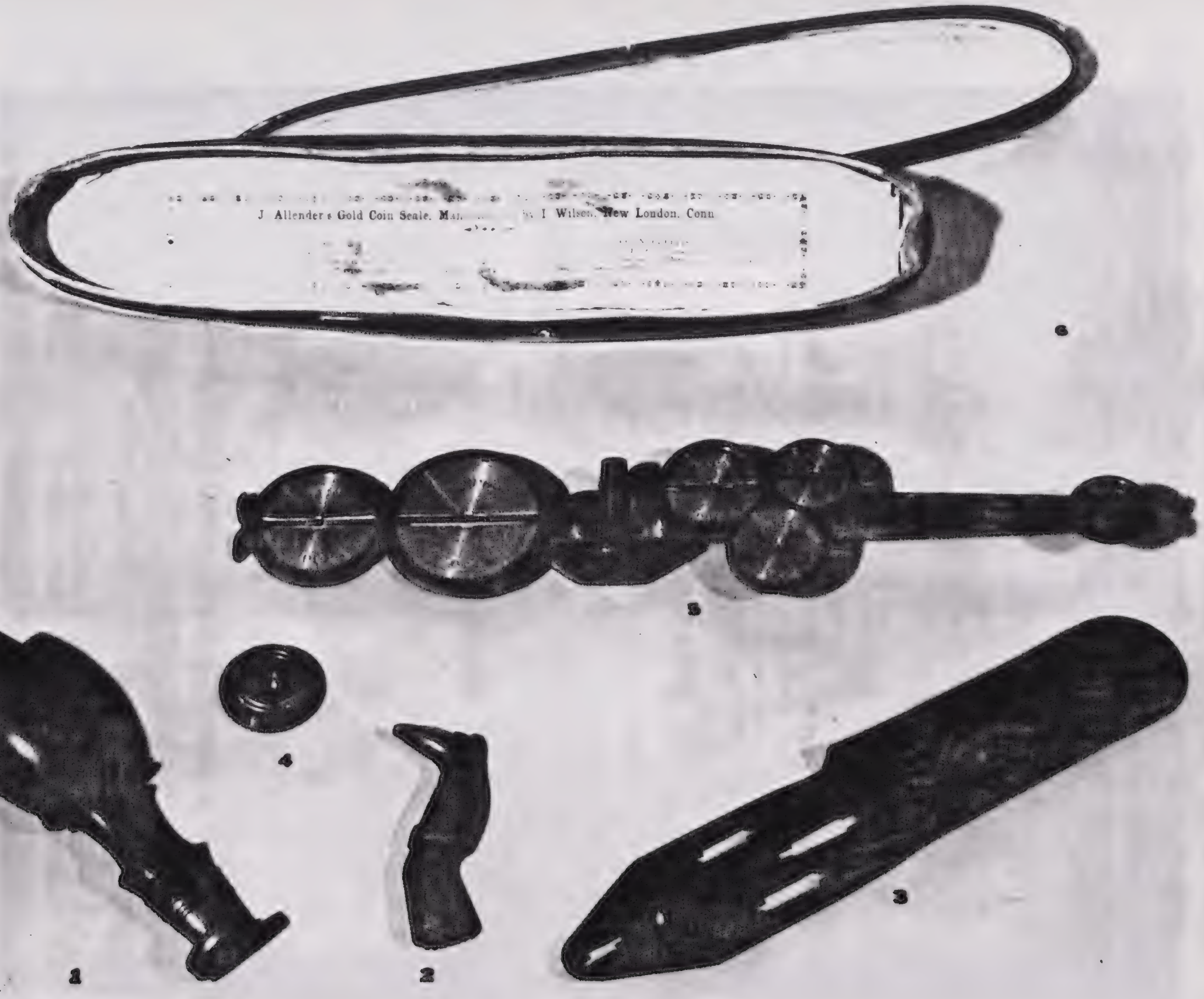
1. He could study under a physician preceptor for two years and then, if successful in the examination by the county medical society, he could be licensed by that society without attending a medical school.

2. After a two-year preceptorship, he could take one term (twelve weeks) in a medical school and then seek licensure as above. These first two options gave him the right to practice medicine. He could identify himself as a doctor but could not use the MD. after his name.

3. If, after his two-year preceptorship, he attended the medical school for two terms, he could qualify for the M.D. degree. This option could have been more attractive had the faculty had enough additional material to make the second term more advanced. But, for want of advanced material, the second term was a repetition of the same lectures on the same subjects by the same teachers. It is true, the second term students had preferential seating for lectures and demonstrations. But this seemed a waste of time and money just to get a medical degree. So John, like many others, did not return for the second term. He never used the M.D. after his name.

As a private student, John studied surgery for six months under an active surgeon. This probably was a very useful experience, although there is no evidence that he undertook surgery, except to drain abscesses, close wounds, and treat fractures.


Lectures
Lectures


J. Allender's Gold Coin Scale. Mar
I. Wilson. New London. Conn
1
2
3
4
5

1 & 2 Instruments for applying sealing wax to letters..

3 Instrument with slots through which gold coins could be passed to determine if they have been "shaved".

4 & 5 J.Allender's gold coin scale, manufactured by I. Wilson, New London Conn.

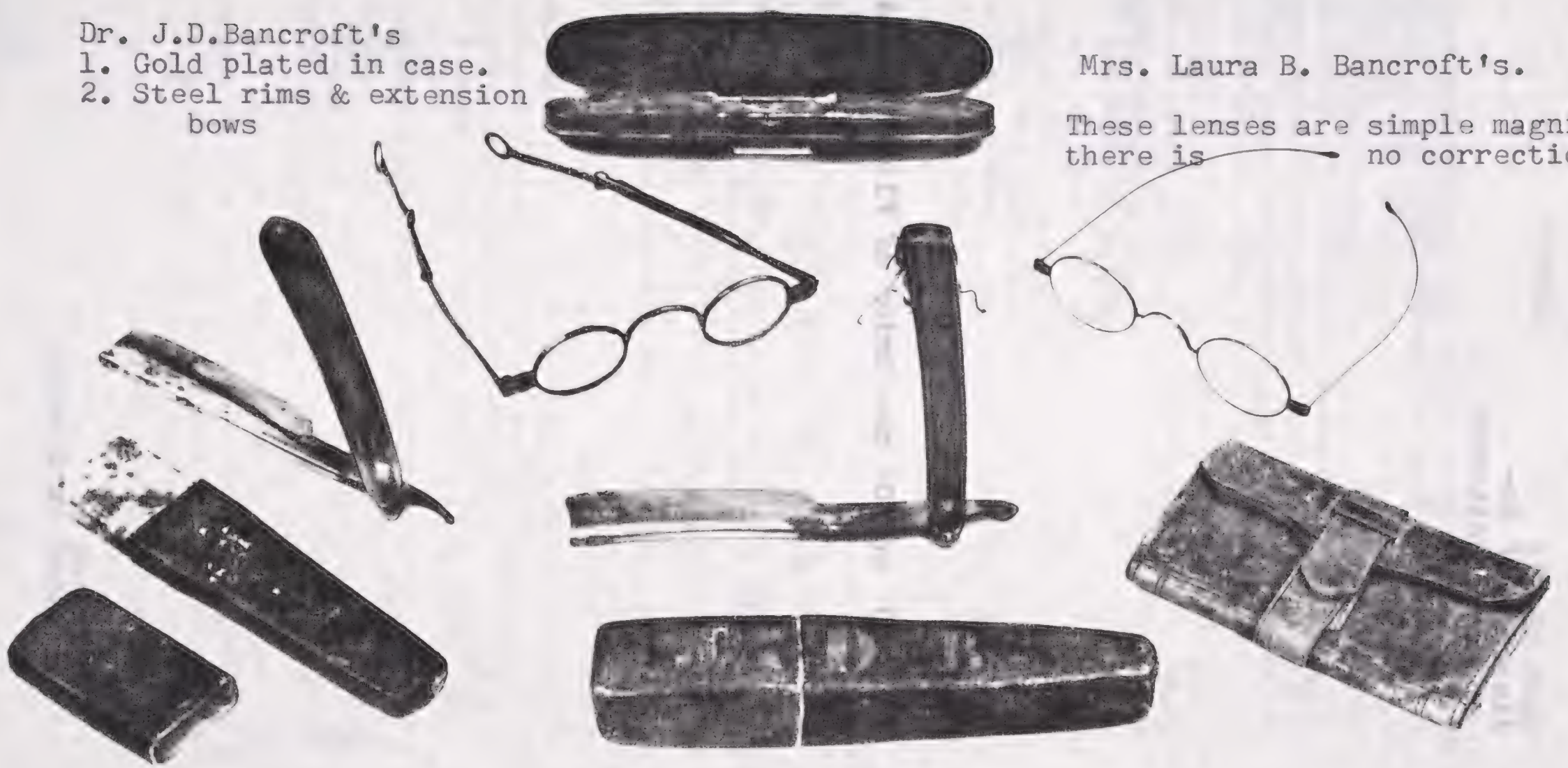
"This scale is adjusted to weigh and guage all American Gold Coins and is a perfect protection against COUNTERFEITS. To balance the Ten and Twenty Dollar Coins place the weight in the dollar crcle. The three smaller coins balance without the weights.. Every genuine coin will both balance and pass through the appropriate guage. There being a trifleing variation in the diameter of ckins of the same denomination of different dates, becareful to place each in the centre of its circle. The difference in thickness is so small that the guage may be relied upon as an infallible test". The above is copied from the manufacturers instructions in the box.

Spectacles

Dr. J.D.Bancroft's
1. Gold plated in case.
2. Steel rims & extension bows

Mrs. Laura B. Bancroft's.

These lenses are simple magnifiers, there is no correction



Razors of this style have changed little in two centuries.

Small bill-fold for "shin-plasters", small bills of 5, 10, & 25 cent denominations.

The Order of Exciteability and Excitement

Degrees of excitement

List of all diseases of increased excitement

Causes

From 30° to 50° the Order of Pleasant health

Diseases of Depressed excitement

Doctor John D. Bancroft received his medical education in the period 1824 to 1827. He was thoroughly instructed in historical and traditional humoral theory of disease and the therapeutic practices of bleeding, purging, puking, sweating and salivation. At this time, the faculty of the College of Physicians and Sureons was advocating moderation in the use of these depleting measures. The use of drugs derived from plants was growing in popularity. Indeed, some doctors were identified as "herbalists" who came to depend more and more on these drugs. At the height of his career, Dr. Bancroft said, "What this community needs is a good herbalist." On every side, laymen and doctors, chemists and pharmacists, and even theologians were seeking better forms of treatment. Out of this came many new theories of health and disease: Phrenology, Osteopathy, hypnotism, faith healing and many others, all of which developed new forms of treatment which were more acceptable than the historical and painful traditional therapies.

As a student in medical college, J. D. Bancroft spent considerable time and effort to construct this diagram of the system of medicine developed by Dr. John Brown (1735-1788) of Scotland. This new doctrine enjoyed great popularity on the Continent, especially in France at the end of the 18th Century. It still had advocates at the time Bancroft was a student.

Brown's hypothesis was that disease resulted from an imbalance in the nervous system. On the left border of this diagram are two scales; one reads from 1 to 80 from top to bottom, the other from 1 to 80 from bottom to top. At the mid-point, 40 on both scales would indicate perfect balance and there would be health. But, if there was too much excitement, the patient would exhibit tension, agitation, this progressing up the scale until the patient might have convulsions. On the other hand, the patient might drift into inactivity, depression, somnolence, and finally into unconsciousness. He arranged all the diseases in columns as they exhibited increasing degrees of "excitement" or increasing degrees of "depression." He then in adjoining columns described a very simple and convenient system of treatment. For the imbalance that produced excessive "excitement" he ordered sedatives and, for the "depressed," stimulants. This system gained rapid popularity with the doctors, for it was a simple, logical and orderly system of treatment. Its popularity with laymen is understandable for it made them feel better, in contrast to the old bleeding and purging that usually made them feel worse. Furthermore, the laymen could understand this system and could buy alcohol and morphine over the counter and treat themselves. Unfortunately, he chose alcohol for a stimulant and morphine for a sedative. As he treated himself for his painful gouty arthritis, he became an alcoholic and morphine addict. It has been said that this theory was responsible for more deaths than the Napoleonic wars. His therapy was responsible in part for the drug abuse which required the building of great "inebriate asylums" in Europe and America.

Adjusted Cure of Disease

Pleasant Health the Surgeon notes Justly because on 30° absolute for to vary in greatness of Stimulus is unalterable way Day;
Not the Power of the applied Nine are of Ten a little varied, and
middle point the Inclinement attained vary between 30° & 50°.

This may certify that Mr. John E. Hancock
commenced his medical studies under my
tuition & prosecuted them with diligence for
one year previous to the [illegible] date. he has
discovered a good genius and a strong retentive
memory — he has gained a tolerable knowledge of
Anatomy, Physiology, Materia Medica, & the
first lines of Practice of Physic, his moral
character is good — Rob.t E. Griffith

Germantown Nov.r 4th 1820

This may certify that Mr. [illegible]
pursued the Study of Medicine [illegible]
me for the Month during which [illegible]
has been inseparable [illegible]

This may certify that Mr. John D. Bancroft commenced his medical studies under my tuition and prosecuted them with diligence for one year previous to this date. He has discovered a good genius and a very retentive memory - he has gained a tolerable knowledge of Anatomy, Physiology and Materia Medica and Cullen's First Lines of Practice of Physic. His moral character is good.

Benjamin G. Ellis

Germanflatts, Nov. 4, 1824

This is a statement regarding the first year of his preceptorship. He taught school for a time to secure much needed money and returned for a second year. After his second year with Dr. Ellis, he entered the Western Branch of the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Fairfield where he studied for one term of 12 weeks.

Again in need of money he taught school. He then might have returned to the medical school where another term of 12 weeks would have qualified him for a medical degree but, not wishing to hear the same lectures on the same subjects by the same professors, he elected to go to Danube and study under Dr. McCraith, a surgeon. After six months Dr. McCraith made this statement -

This is to certify that John D. Bancroft has pursued the study of Medicine and Surgery with me for six months during which time his character has been impeccable.

At Danube, Sept. 14, 1827
Patrick McCraith

The Medical Cabinet of Dr. J. D. Bancroft

My father, Rev. W. D. Bancroft, remembered this cabinet from his boyhood in Harpursville. He recalled a distinct pink color in the wood. This identifies the wood as cherry, the only wood with this color. In time, this color is lost as the aging wood turns brown.

Cabinets of this design were very common. They served professional and businessmen as a place to do their bookkeeping, manage their correspondence, and keep their valuable objects. The doors and drawers are secured with locks.

Through great good fortune, the doctor's personal and professional things were preserved. On the lower shelf is his medical library and, on the extreme right, his day books and account books stand in their tall compartments. His instruments are displayed on the opened table leaf. Underneath is his small camelback trunk. It is covered with deerhide which, from wear and age, has lost most of its hair. Ornamental upholstery tacks were used to secure this cover and to fashion his initials. In some of the pictures, his saddle bags stand nearby. Since he saw most of his patients in the home, he often went on horseback for there were no hard-top roads, and he often followed animal or Indian trails in all kinds of weather.

Before his death, Rev. W. D. Bancroft expressed his preference to keep this cabinet and its contents in the homes of Bancroft doctors or others who had an interest in preserving this collection intact. He believed, and we agree, that if it went into a museum it would probably be broken up; the instruments to one place, books to another, and letters to a third. Following his suggestion, we would favor its going to my son, W. H. Bancroft, and then to John's son, John David Bancroft.

P.M.B.

Mortar and Pestle

Plants with medicinal properties were grown in the garden or found in the field or purchased from a druggist. They could be powdered in the mortar and invidual doses folded into "papers." We can today prescribe drugs and specify that individual doses be put up in "papers" and the druggist will comply, but today drugs are available in pills and capsules which are much better, and "papers" have become obsolete. The doctor's "Yankee thrift" led him to use scraps of newspaper.

The small medicine bottles are irregular in size and shape, illustrating the fact that the production of large numbers of glass objects of uniformity had not yet been accomplished.

Note the crack in the mortar and the leather jacket that has been placed around the outside to support the cracked mortar. The leather jacket was fashioned by the shoemaker and then wet to make it shrink, giving very firm support which has prevented a complete break for more than 150 years. Yankee thrift?

P.M.B.

The upper instrument is a turn-key for pulling teeth. There is a hinged jaw. When this is placed over a tooth and the white handle turned, great pressure can be placed on the tooth.

Below is a tourniquet. When the ivory nob is placed over a blood vessel, the screw device makes it possible to exert great pressure. It has also been used to put pressure on a nerve so that an extremity would become numb. In the absence of anesthetics, this would reduce the pain somewhat in amputations.

1. Fine probe.

2. Pote Mache - The forked tip was used to insert a ligature where a needle could not be used.

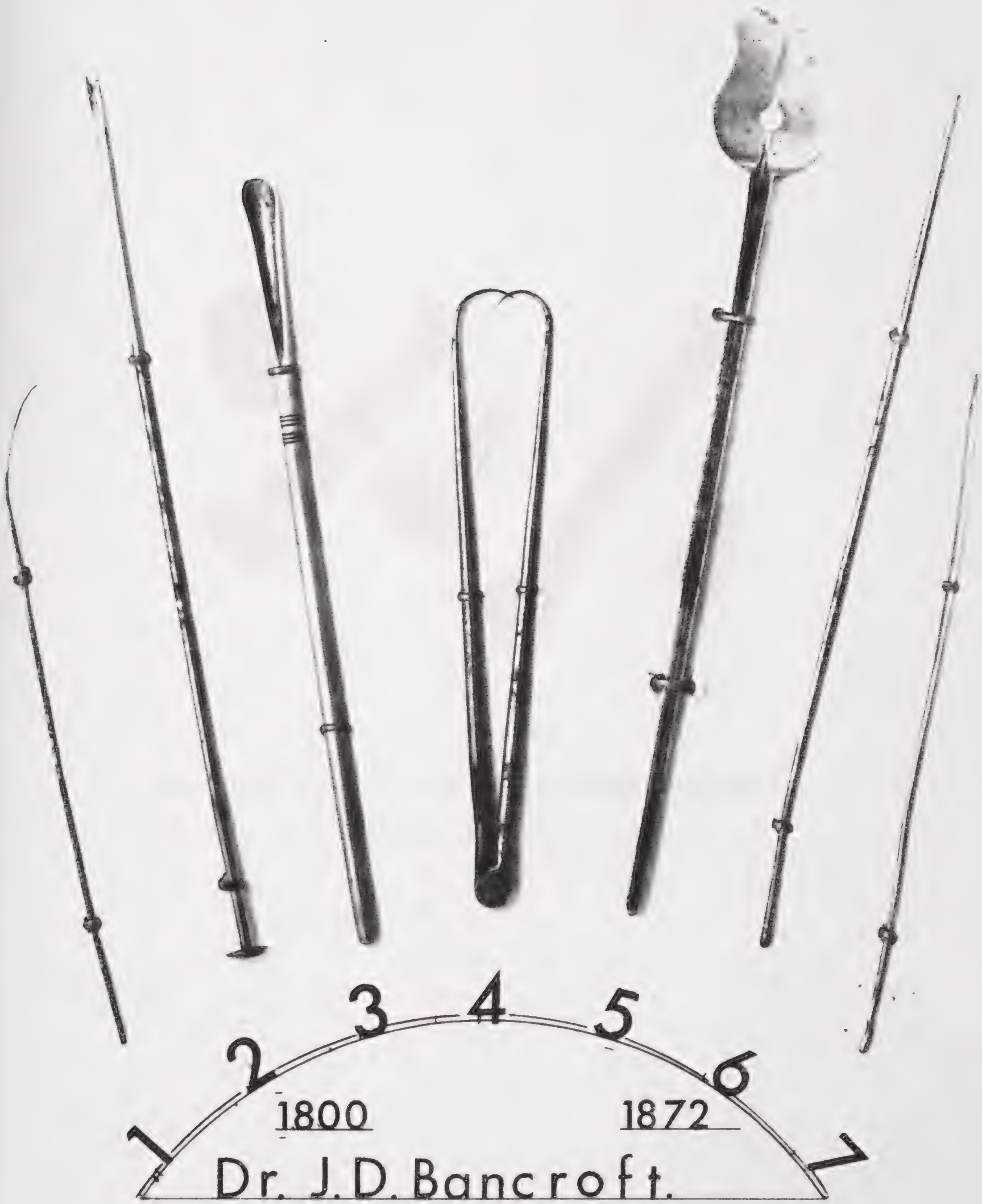
3. Scoop for removomg foreign bodies.

4. Tenaculum or "hooks" for securing traction.

5. Tongue depressor or elevator with handle a grooved director.

6. Probe.

7. Triangular lancet. Triangular in cross section with three cutting edges.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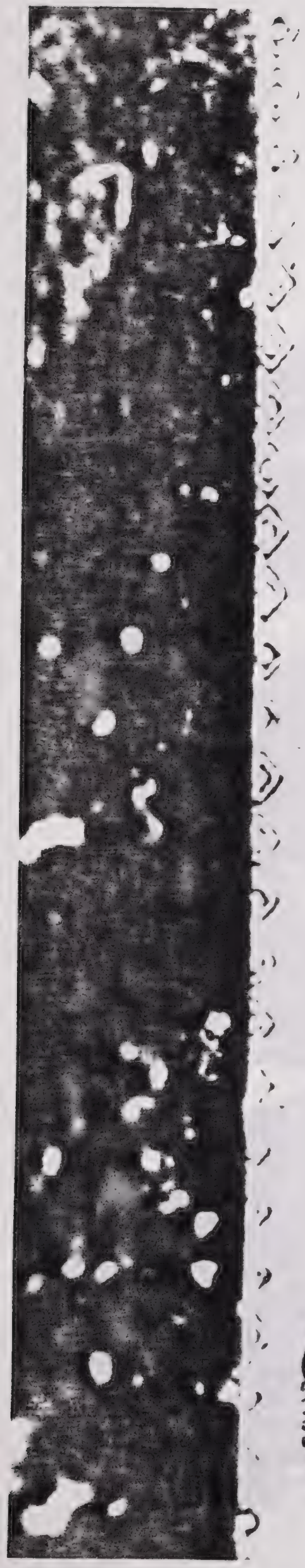
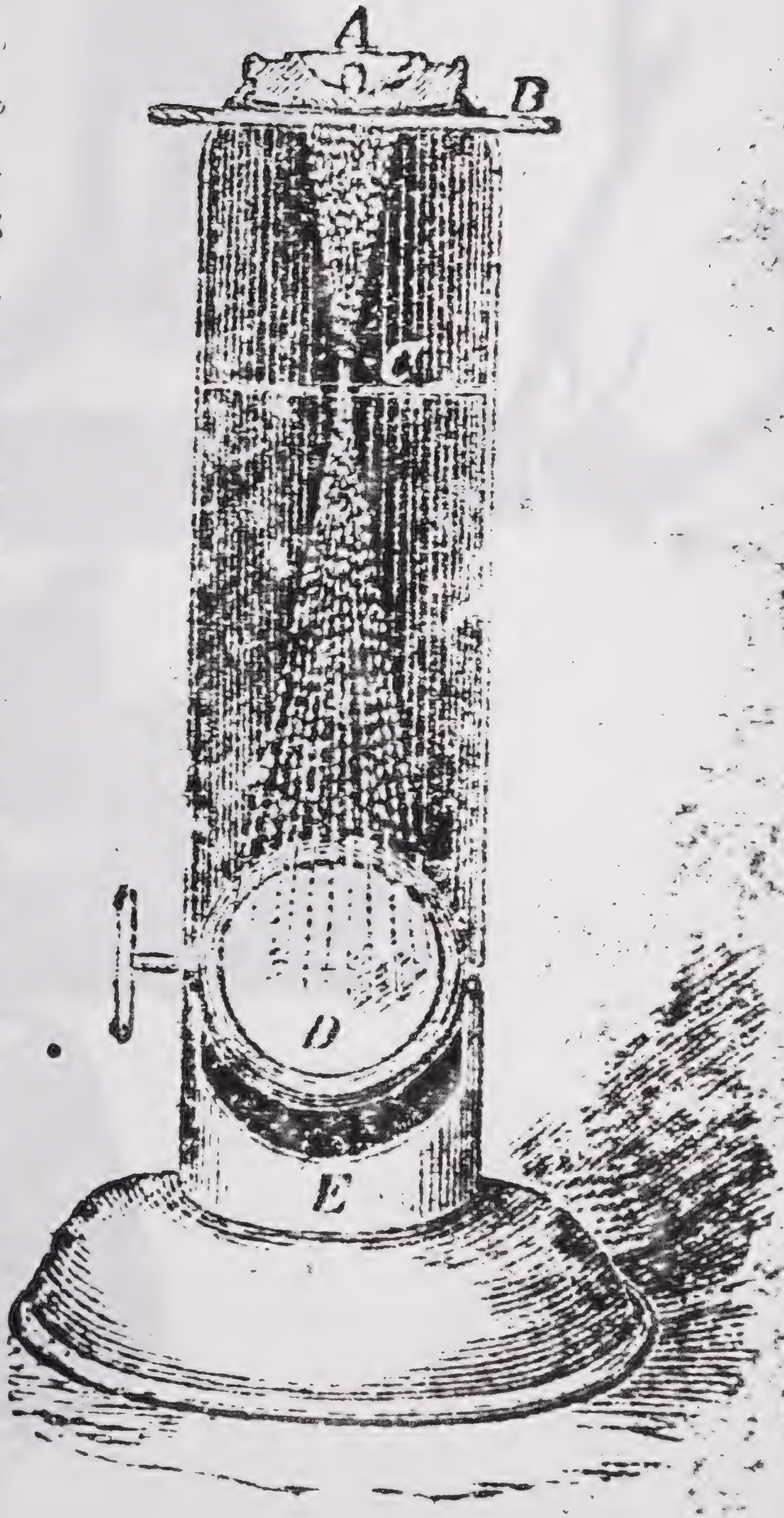
1800
1872
Dr. J. D. Bancroft.

Two Stethescopes with an assortment of bells

Reduced 50%. Actual length 5½ inches.





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Craig's Microscope.

Patented February 18,1869

Directions - To examine any fluid such as stagnant water, blood, milk or pus, lift a small drop on the eye of a darning needle or small stick and place it on the underside.of the lens, right on the centre --the smaller the drop the better. If you wish to see the globules of blood, pus or milk these fluids must be la= rgely diluted with water. After placing the drop to be exam - ined on the under side of the lems place the latter on the top of the instrument and then stand the latter so that the mirror will directly face the light and turn the mirror until the light is reflected up the body of the instrument on the lens, then the objects contained in 5he fluid will become visible, if not, turn the instrument a little to the rjght or left and turn the mirror till right. For dry objects like hair, fleas or spider's feet place them on a small slide of glass under the lens. When examining a small drop of fluid the slide of glass is not re- quired. If you wish to examine the curculation in the web of a frog's foot place the undersurface of the lens directly in contact with the undersurface of the frog's foot and then hold it up to the light. Objects can be had mounted of most of the opticians. If not mounted with too great thickness of glass be- tween the objects and the lens so as to prevent getting the for- mmer in the focus, they will answer well, otherwnse they they are not suited for the high magnification of this ,instrument. Remember that the nearer the oblect is tk the undersurface of the lens the better the view. Objects prepared for this micro- scope from among the most beautiful objects can be had of any agent who sells these microscopes.

The above is the manufactureers instructions copied verbatim.

A manufacturers diagram of this instrument was photographed, magnifying the image from 5½" to 6½"

A - designates the lens at the top. This is the only lens.
B - is a glass slide inserted in a slot that brings it in close proximity to the lens. Prepared slides are ex- amined in this way.
C - Is an aperture, like the stops in a camera, to improve resolution.
D - Mirror.
E - Base.

Prepared slides that were purchased with this scope-

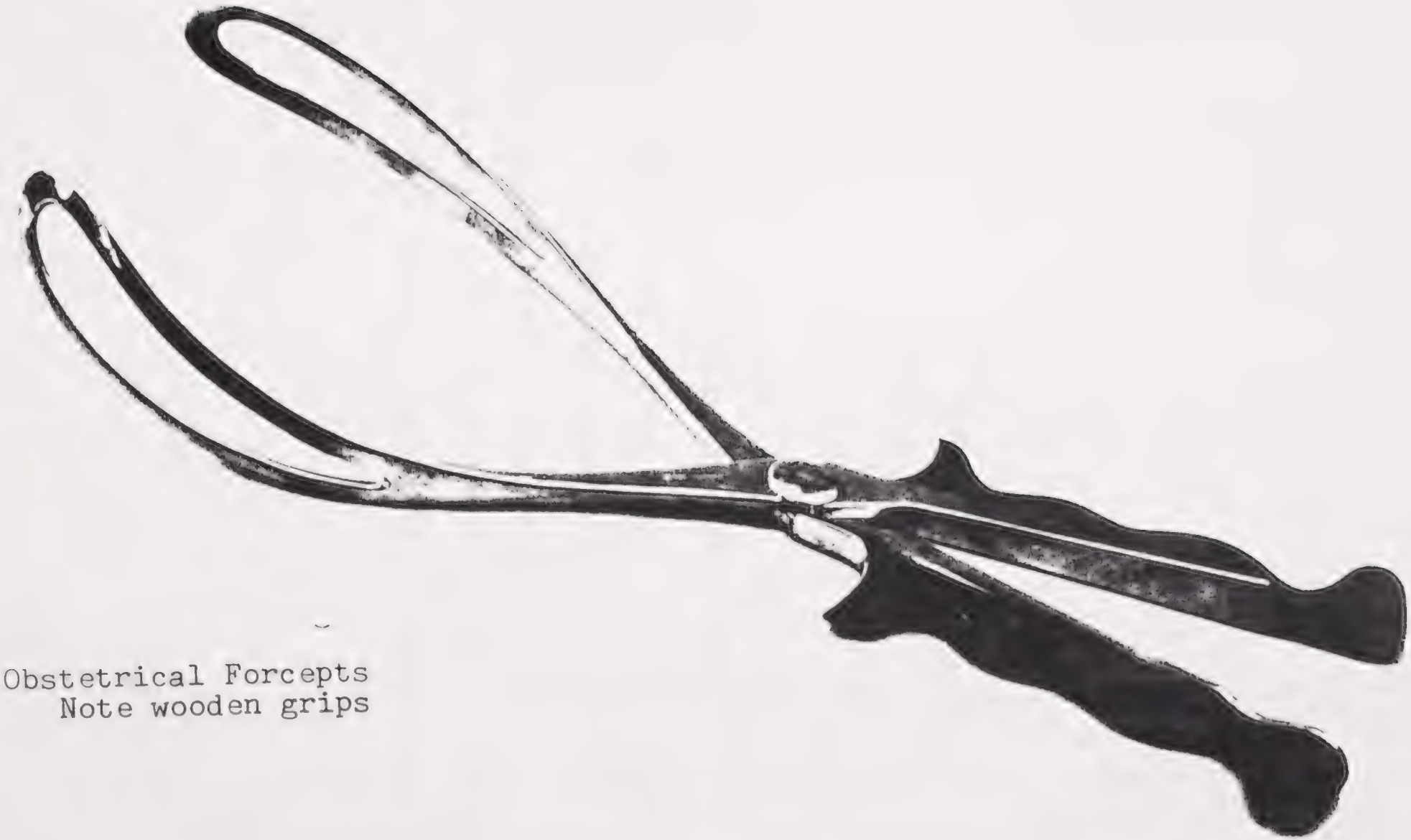
1. A wasp's foot
2. A flies egg depositor
3. Saw flies wing ,
4. Stamen of flower
5. Bed bug
6. Fibers of silk
7. Butterflies feeler
8. Catterpiller's spines
9. Flower petal
10. Cricket's saw.

11. Caterpillar's foot
12. Earwig's leg
13. Tiny spider
14. Antler of flower
15. Bee's tongue
16. Roach's feeler
17. Insect's eye
18. Bee's foot
19. Caterpillar's fur
20. Wool

Microscopes like this were sold in large numbers and were often kept in the parlars of the intelligensia where they served as popular conversation pieces. They served a useful purpose inppopularizing the germ theory which was developing out of the work of van Leeuwenhoek, Pasteur, Kock and Lister.

William Oscar Bancroft, while an academy student, saw a public demonstratiom of what was described as a solar microscope, an instrument like this one. Dr. J.D.Bancroft bought this microscope about 1870 after his retirement from practice. This was his first experience with such an instrument. This reveals the doctor's interest in this inovation which was to revolutionize medicine.

Dr. Bancroft's Saddlebags



Obstetrical Forcepts
Note wooden grips

PHOTO COPIES

OF THE ORIGINALS

It was our original intent to give the same page number to the typed copy as was given to the original document. Try this guide when looking for the original but if this fails use the dates as a guide for these are in chronological order. Of course not all of the original documents could be copied. But most were and are very readable.

Photo-copy 21

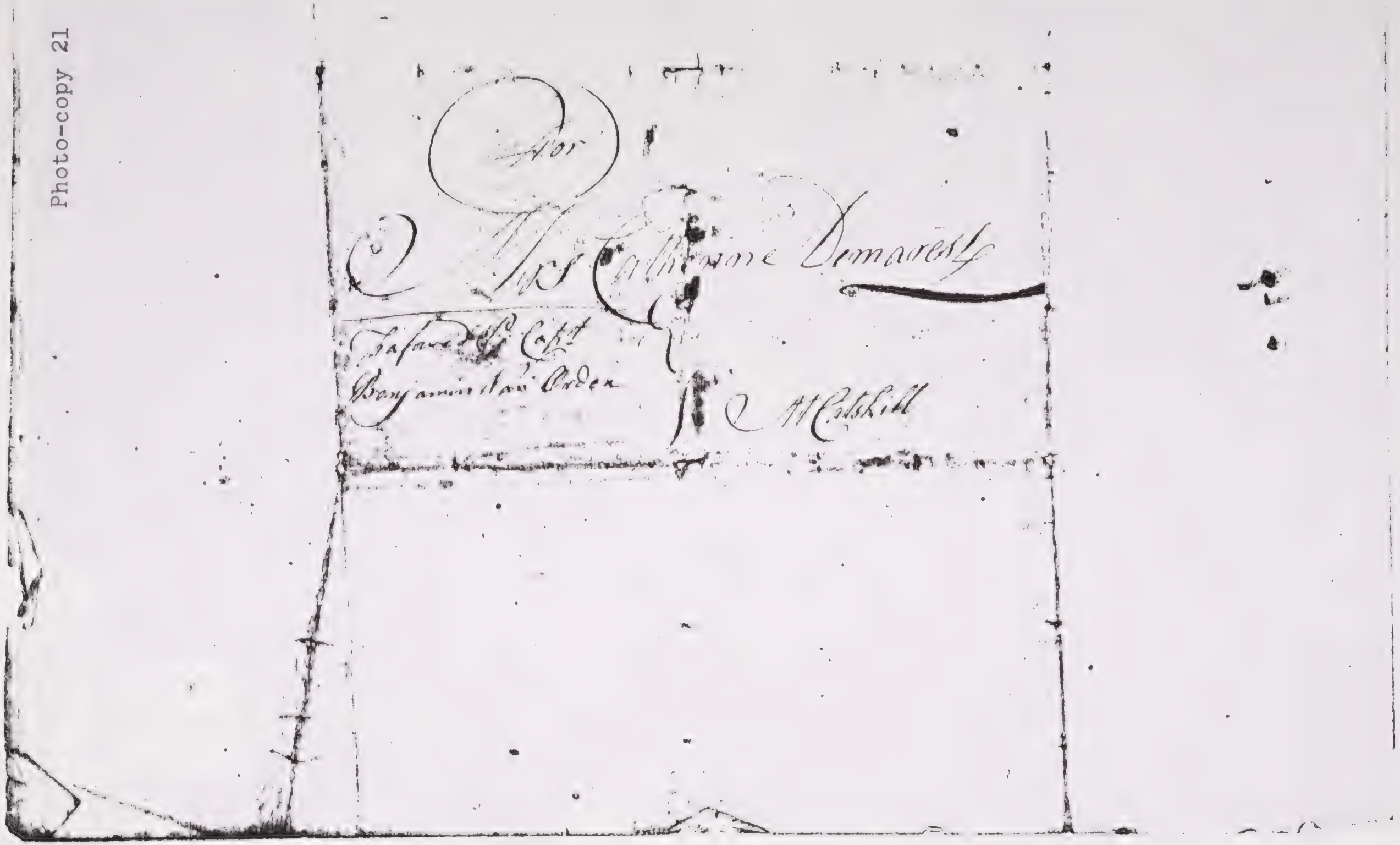


Photo-copy 22

New York 7th December 1793.

Dear madam we have last night finished our business being now ready to hoist to sail we have settled all our old or first debts which we Owed here towards the sloop as also all our Duties excepting our last salt which is but trifling Nan Corden myself have advanced towards sloop and Cargo now on board £609..3..11 which moneys we are to take in the West Indies out of the Cargo and lay out before Ourselves I have besides twenty barrels of the best kilderied Indian meal on which I expect to make Considerable advance besides my Commissions on the Cargo & my full half of three quarters of the Cargo with a little Cash yet in hand which if we have luck will amount to something worth while we have taken our Clearance for the Island of St Croix or any of the West Indi markets although I expect we shall go to Guadeloop which is allowed - - - -

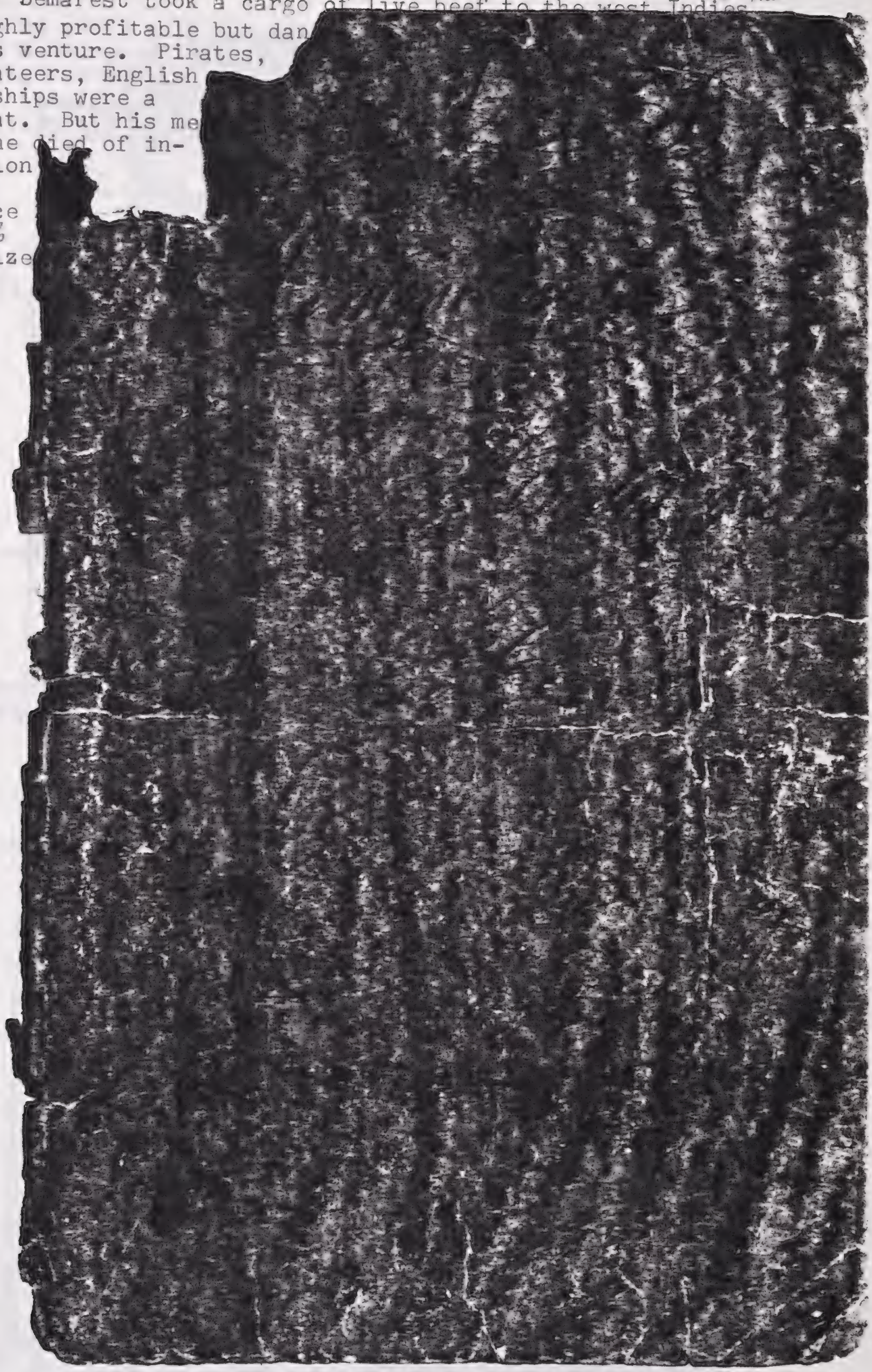
we are all in good health on board only Jane informs me that Margy has got the Cash got at bushnell's from the Crazy woman that has wandered at the landing Our people in Jersey all very well mamma thanks It very hard my going to sea I have not had time to go and see them the Old Dominy requested me by letter which I found at Huggs to not fail of coming to see them when I came Down as he said it probably would be the last time however I am not out of the hands of Providence he is able to protect as well at sea as on land - I have sent you one Dozen black handled knives & forks by Nan Corden which I bought at Vendue & I hope god who is able to bring us face to face again will not fail my best respects to your father and all Our friends farewell & I remain your Very Affectionate friend — Thos Demarest

To Mrs Catherine Demarest.

N.B. Murty has Disappointed me about my thick boots tell him it will Certainly Cost him the making of a pair of shoes when I get back let him bring the boots home where they will be safe

Capt. Demarest took a cargo of live beef to the west Indies.
A highly profitable but dan
erous venture. Pirates,
privateers, English
war ships were a
threat. But his me
and he died of in-
fection

Reduce
25%
in size



A True

List of the Goods Wares & Merchandise Ship[illegible]
the American Sloop Commerce of Catoma
John Nichols Master Now in the River Martinico
Bound for New York

Cantents

1790 February 17	21 Hhd — Sugar	John Bancroft
	3 Puncheons — D°	
	9 Tierces — D°	Arnold
	Barrels — D°	
1829	1 Hh. & bag Coffee	Blakely
	2 Hhds Molasses	
	Hides —	

John Bancroft was owner of Sloop Commerce
and died on his voyage home —
He was my mother's first husband,
John Bancroft —

Sea Log of Captain John Demarest of New York - CP 23-A
his last voyage. He and two of his crew died probably of typoid
endemic there today.

			Courses	Winds	Transactions Wenfay 10
					Left New York & Came to ancre under Staten Island
6					
8					
10					
12					
2					how up the ancre under Staten & down for the Light house found the Soundings from 3 to 7 fathom run Clear without the help of a Pailot
4					
6	3		S.S.E.	West	
8	5				
10	5				John Demarest
12	5				

Course	Dist.	Dif. Lat.			Dep.	Dif.	D.if. Long.	Long. in
S.S.½ E	34	30			[illegible]	20	27	73.38

H	R	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Thiday 11th
2	4		S.S.E	N.W.	
4	4				
6	4			N.N.W.	
8	4	1	South	N.N.W.	
10	2	1			Calm & tumbling sea
12					Down Main Sail
					Down Squair Sail
4					
6	2	1	East	S.S.E.	Set the main Sail & Smoe Breze from the Southard
8	2	1			
10	2	1	E.S.E.		
12	2				

Course	Dist.	Dif. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dif.	Dif. Long.	Long. in
S.E.	35	29	19	39.39		15.17	[illegible]

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Friday 12 Dec
2	2	2	S. E.		
4	2				saw two Sail to the Westward
6	2				fresh breese & Deep sea
8	2				
10	2				Clear weather & Light moon
12	2	1			Clear weather & Light moon
2	3				
4	3	1		S. W.	
6	3				
8	4		S. E. B. S.	W. S. W.	Set the fore Sail
10	5				
12	5				Latitude Noon 35 - 40 N

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in
S. E	71	50	50	35-40	109	2-21	71-24 E

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Saturday 13 Decemb
2	4	[illegible]	S. E.	W. S.	
4	4	[illegible]	S. S. E.		saw a Sail
6	4				
8	4				
10	3			N. W.	
12	2	1	S. E. b. S.	N. E.	
2	2	1			
4	2	1			Cloudy thick Air
6	2	1			
8	2	1			
10	2				
12	2				Calm

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in
S. E.	73.	66.	38.	37-38.	147	3-8	70-37

	HK		Courses	Winds	Transactions Sunday 14th December
			S.E.b.S.	N.E.	— —
		1	— —	— —	— — —
6	2	— —	S.E.b.S	— —	
8	3	— —	S.E.b.S	N.W.	Jibed Ship — — —
10	6	— —	Henry Dunwoodie	N. —	at North a[illegible]
					No Sail in [illegible]
12	7	— —			Had fine Clear Weather
2	7				an Old fowl for Dinner
4	7				all in health Enough to Eat
6	7	1			our full Allowances Excepting
8	7	1			Jape he is very hungry
10	7	1			because he wishes to finish the
12	7	1			fish pig for fear it would
					Spoil [illegible]

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in
S.E.b.S	130	108 —	62	35-50	209	4-24	69-21

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Monday 15th December
2	6	1	S.E.b.S	N.E	
4	6	1 —	— —	— —	fresh breese & Clear Weather
6	6	— —	— —	— —	
8	6	— —	— —	— —	Inclining to Squalls
10	6	—	— —	— —	
12	6				Star Light & Moon
2	6	— —	—	— —	
4	6	—	— —	— —	
6	6	—	— —	— —	In Square Sail Set fore Sail
8	6	—	— —	— —	let the reefs out main Sail
10	6	— —	— —	—	
12	6	—	— —	— —	

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in
S.E.b.S	142	118 —	79 —	33-51	288	5-59	67-

Henry Dunwoodie

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Tuesday 16th Dec
2	6	—	J.E.B.S	N.E.b.E	
4	5	1	56	—	
6	5	1	—	—	
				11¼	
				4	
				45	Down Main Sail & fib hoa
		5	South Draft		Twoo for Bermudia
2	1	—	J.E.B.S	Do	
4	1	—	—	—	Set the fib & main Sail
6	5	1		34	Clear Wea the wall in good
8	5	1			helth Excepting the Large
10	5				Wold face Oa he will not
12	5				Eat any thing —— Admir

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in
11.E.b.E	98	84	50	32-26	338	6-59	66-46

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Wednesday 17 December 1794
2	6	—	J.E.B.S	E.N.E	
4	6	—	—	—	Reefed the main Sail
6	6	1			Reefed the main Sail —
8	6	1	—	—	Down fore Sail
					a pouring Sail
10	6	1	—	—	Squals of rain
12	6	1	—	—	
2	6	1	—	—	frish Gales lind a
4	6	1			Tumbling Sea makes all
6	6	1	—	—	Crack again all fa
8	6	1			Tolerable good hel the bad
10	6	1			Cookin no Tea nor Coffee for
12	6	1			brickfast

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in
[illegible]	54	[illegible]	79	30-14	417	8-30	65-15
[illegible]	[illegible]	132	[illegible]	35-14	417	8-30	65-15

From 17 December to 26 December there was uneventful sailing on a good sea with favorable winds. P.M.B.

E

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Friday 26 December 1777
2	2	— —	South	East.	
4	2	— —	— —	—	Clear Weather & Light air
6	2	—	— —	— —	& smooth sea — —
8	1	1	—	— —	—
10	1	1	— —	—	
12	1	1	— —	—	
2	1	1	— —	—	Clear & Star Light
4	1	1	S.S.W.	S.E.B.E	— — — 30 / 210 / 52
6	1	1			
8	2	—	— —	—	Breese Increases
10	2	—	—	—	a Little
12	2	—	— —	—	although but Light

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in
S.S.W.	65 -	65 -	6 -	20 - 25	619 -	12 - 18	61-27

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Saturday 27 December
2	3		S.B.W.	S.E.B.E	
4	3	— —	S.S.W.	S.E.	Clear Weather & small breese —
6	2	1	— —	— —	
8	2	1	S.B.W.		
10	2	1	— —	— —	Upset our boat & Cask Staved with Spanish brown & tar —
12	2	1	— —	— —	
2	2	1	— —	—	
4	2	1	— —	—	86 / 21 / 86 — 891 / 4 / 76
6	2	1	— —	—	
8	2	1	—	—	Set up the Square sail
10	2	1	— —	—	
12	2	1	— —	—	

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in
S.W.	63	58 -	24 —	19 - 7 -	895 -	11 - 53	61-52

F

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Sunday the 28th December
2	2	1	S.S.W.	S.E.	
4	2	1	—	—	Clear Weather & small Breese.
6	2	1	—	—	
8	2	1	—	—	
10	2	1	—	—	
12	2	—	—	—	flying Clouds & not much wind
2	2	—	—	—	
4	2	1	South	E.S.E.	
6	2	1	—	—	only three bundels hay left
8	2	1	—	—	but sight of land yet fine
10	3	—	—	—	Weather but the wind not very
12	3	—	—	—	favourable, all in good health
					the Lord be praised

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in
1/2 W.	60 -	59 -	6 -	18 - 06	589 -	11 - 46	61 - 59

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Monday 29th December
2	3	—	S.B.W.	E.S.E.	
4	3	—	—	—	
6	3	—	—	—	
8	3	1	South	—	
10	4	1	—	—	Come Cor a good Cove
12	4	1	—	—	
2	4	1	—	—	
4	4	1	—	—	
6	4	1	—	—	
8	4		—	—	Sied an Island which we
10	5		—	S.B.W.	take for Lefeaor —
22	5		—	—	

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in
S.W.A	96	90 -	10 -	16 - 28	579 -	11 - 36	62 - 09

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Tuesday 30th Decemb. 1794
2	4	—	S.B.W.	E.S.E	Saw Mangelant & part of Gua=
4	4	—	—	—	Delorpe — — —
6	4				Saw Dominick — — —
8	4				
10	4				
12	4				
2	4				
4	4	—	—	—	Saw the Island Martinneck
6	4	—	—	—	run under the West or Northwest
8	4	—	—	—	high lands and were all becalmed
10	4				
12					

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Wednesday 31 Decemb. 1794
2					
4					got off fast to ye Piers
6					two boats came on board the first
8					being General Arnold's Son
10					Wishing us to give his father the
12					first refusal of our cattle which
2					we agreed to we went on shore & the
4					old General agreed to go without
6					board and we agreed to give them
8					but to Dilivery them at Dominick
10					& the Saint with an agreement
12					that they would at our return give
					us a full Load Lumber for Grenada
					& at our return from there to
					give us a full Load of Sugars Coffee
					& molasses for New York & Cadiz & Dominica

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

New Years Day 1795

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Tuesday 1 January
2					got into Prosaid Dominica at 12 O
4					Clock & soon come to anchor and
6					went on shore found one of the
8					Gentlemen we were Directed to
					but he told us there could be nothing
10					Don this Day only we must apply to
12					the Governor and So he up his Letter
					which we did - found his Excellency at
2					Dinner with a Large table full of Gest &
4					he received us politely as soon as to take
6					a Glass of wine with him we made no
					great apology the wine was handed by
8					the Servants and we Drank the Gentlemens
					health afterwards the governor drink
10					the president of the United States health
					which all the officers did notwithstanding
12					he asked us after dinner if we left the off

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Friday 2 January —
2					We got no permission to land
4					any thing untill One O'clock
6					P.M. & then the Inhabitants and
8					Slaves were on board of us as much
					as ever to purchase our poultry
10					which went off as fast as could
12					be counted It appeared to me
2					as if they were almost Starved
4					out for the want of fresh
					provisions agreed with the Gentlemen
6					to Land the half of the Cattle to
8					morrow morning early
10					
22					

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

1795

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions. Saturday 3 January
2					Wind at N.E. Variable Light airs
4					Understood to Potter & Cook which
6					took us half the Day had to run from
8					one house to another from that to
10					to the Fort to get Permission to
12					sail being invited by Mr.
2					Edwards a principal Gentleman
4					of the Island to Dine we went
6					according to Appointment at
8					three O'Clock had som agreeable
10					Conversation & som Disagreeable
12					he told us he had Only three
					Children one by a French Gipsy
					Wife another by a Spanish &
					a third by a Indatto a fine thing
					says he to tell of in America

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions. Sunday 4th January
2					Move up our Anear this morning at
4					Day light went on Shore with boat on
6					Some small business when an officer of
8					the artillery came on board with the Due
10					to buy the Horses which he did got
12					perfect & Landed them above the
2					Town Likewise part of our Lemon
4					then stood on for the Saints got a
6					fine breese
8					
10					
12					

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions monday 5th January 1795
2					Run into the Saints & got to
4					Anchor about half past Eleven
6					Went on shore with boat and agree
8					with the Company to land them
10					immediately took Dinner & then
12					landed the cattle with some grain
2					hay & potatoes after which we
4					had up our Anchor & stood off
6					were hailed by a sloop of war &
8					ordered to show our permission to
10					go without the harbor told him we
12					had no other permission than general
					agreement to land the cattle & come
					away sent up to a Security for to get
					permission which he insisted on our staying
					till then next morning to take and stock
					with some letters to the Admiral agreed

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Tuesday 6th January
2					the next morning it took Fifteen time to bring the captain which was
4					Dancing genteelly and after the return
6					of them on board we hoisted anchor and made
8					Sail run down to the Security point and
10					stood off an on under the Storm when
12			100.34		the officer hailed us out of the stern of
2			3.00		the Ship & told us they would be ready
4			4.84		for us in half an hour we made a decent
6			2.50		Bow & thanked him accordingly for about
8			13.		that time the gentleman came on board
10			27.	8½½	we made Sail for St Pieus marthaed
12			30.00	10	had a fine breeze in running accrosse to
2					France reparde bay Dominick got along under
4					the land but Night came on and it
6					became Calm then but a very little
8					distance all night
10					
22				4.00	

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Wednesday 7 January 1730
2					Calm almost All Day being
4					under the Land on the west side
6					the trade wind could not touch
8					us get Down Nearly the round
10					off Hoseau a Dutch but that
12					being a Current setting to the
2					Northward and Calm we Kept gram
4					untill About Ten a Clock a Night
6					When we got a Stiff breese but not
8					Very fair however we Laid our course
10					out from under the Land & went
12					on Very well all Night

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Thursday 8 January
2					This morning we were Nearly
4					opposite the North End of the Island
6					Martinico with a tolerable good breese
8					about 12 sailed and we got pretty
10					much a Calm & wailing lie
12					untill after middle afternoon
2					then took a breese off the Land
4					& run Down opposite St Pierr
6					
8					
10					
12					

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

L

$\frac{22}{56}$ $\frac{1302}{456}$ 12,02

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Friday 9th January 1795
2					got the Ship moored about 12 this
4					morning then on shore to the Custom
6					house & got permission to land some
8					of our small things
10					
12					an opportunity offered for
2					Capt Thompson to send Letters to
4					New York
6					
8					got them ready this Evening
10					and put them on board Next
12					Morning

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Saturday 10 January
2					This Day made a full Entry
4					to the Custom house & sold all
6					our small affairs broke up
8					all our Carmon & scoured the
10					Vessel Sold the whole of our
12					Portatoes & made some preparation
2					to begin to Load the beginning
4					of Next week for granada
6					
8					
10					
22					

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Sunday 11 January 1795
2					Som Squalls of rain — —
4					
6					fine Clear morning all in good
8					health Spent this Day in walking
					& Seeing Curiosities we saw the Roman
10					Catholicks going in to their meeting
12					Dipping their fingers in the marble basson
2					& Crossing themselves when we got on the
					steps we saw several Images Cut in
4					Marble among the rest our Saviour
6					on the Cross & M M In the afternoon we
8					were going past the Coffe houses where
					the gradest people were at billiards &
10					great part of the mechanicks at work
12					as at any other Day

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Monday 12 January
2					This morning got our water Cask
4					out of the hole Tok & got out our hoops
6					& began to take in staves
8					Tuesday 13th January — 1795 —
10					Continued taking in Staves the Old
12					General finish on Cut taking com
					Cattle as far as M Lucy Nichols
2					will say agree to M Hallagh he has
4					had trouble enough
6					Wednesday 14 got a flat that brought
8					on board 2500 d 1/4 Dollars pathway
					got in the whole staves & heading 12500
10					Nichols has agreed with the General
					to take the Cattle provided he gives
12					him four Johannesses

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Thursday 15th January 1795
2					fine Clear this morning after Day
4					Light we are steering Away Now
6					to the best advantage in order to
8					make room for the Cattle
10					friday morning 16th just undertook
12					to move the Vessel off first the
2					yard where the Cattle are & got
4					them in about three afternoon,
					prepared & set Sail for St Lucia
6					Saturday morning 17th a good
8					breeze one midnight this morning
10					we were nigh the Land got into
					Canalle Cottage this morning
12					but could not Land the Cattle only
					Paid

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Sunday morning 18
2					Went on shore in Order to get the
4					blacks to receive the Cattle but they
6					were so Engaged at butchering they
8					said they could not Allow us however
10					we prevailed at last and they received
12					them in the Course of the Day
2					set Sail this afternoon & got out
4					small breese all night
6					Monday morning 19 January 1795
8					Were almost off first the Land
10					St Vincent fine breese though
22					but Light — — —
					20th
					A fine Clear morning blessed
					thanks to the Lord for his
					mercies Calm towards Night

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Wednesday 21st January 1795
2					At Connell Creek the morning got
4					under the Lake Friday just before Day
6					Light got into the Canach at 9th
8					Afternoon being to late to go
10					to the Custom house Looked round
12					round at the price of Slaves were
					offered five Johannes a Thousand
2					Thursday morning 22d Just preparing
4					our Manifests full order to go to
6					Custom house made Our Entry with
8					Considerable running About & began
10					to load Slaves Friday 21st Hoisted Sugar
12					Friday morning 23d Intended to get Some
					of them Shifted but could not get through
					Saturday 24th got Our Sugars Stowed all Stowed
					but the Cask in Lead other Shall be Obliged
					to get Some New Cask & Shift in

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Sunday 25th January 1795
2					Jerrie Very Sick cannot Eat any thing
4					of Consequence the Doctor has been to Sick
6					him twice three or four yankee Captains
					have this Day been on board
8					Monday 26th hired five Negroes on account
10					of our Hands being Sick Not able to
					work got on shore Nine Thousand Slaves
12					Tuesday morning 27th 1795 a fine morning
2					the Black fellows have again stowed
4					got all our Slaves & heading on shore
					this Day and shall with the help of
6					Providence begin to load Sugars to
					morrow morning
8					Wednesday 28th got all our Sugars in
10					& went further out the Canach this
					Evening Jerrie Very low & Slaves
12					Considerable bad

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Thursday morning 29 January 1795
2					This morning about one o'clock we
4					had the [redacted] mournfull news
6					of the Death of Jeremiah Brown which
8					I cannot help myself I have lost
					a very he was generally Beloved
10					Friday Morning a few minutes past
12					Nine John Sturges Died I am at
2					a great stand & hardly know what
					to Do this afternoon Buried
4					a number of American captains with
					the Chaplain followed to both graves
6					Capt Nichols Brought Jerry &
					we being ready to sail all but leaving
8					out the Pilot I went on shore &
					then Cleared Out with a great deal
10					of fatigue and Concern the next
					morning to Get Sail for a Martinico
12					

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in
					31 14 17		

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Saturday 31st January
2					Went on shore at St Geriges Grenada
4					for the last time in order to get
					some more Stores & returned on
6					board paid the funeral Expences
8					of Jeremiah Brown & John
					Sturges we undertook to get
10					under way which we had little
12					work with our few hands but
					we finally got under way then
2					about [illegible] & Last we fell down
4					to Leeward
6					
8					
10					
22					

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Sunday 1th February 179 5
2			Chogg hill hall	13	fine morning the wind somewhat
4					scant the remainy of our family
6					In Tolerable helth thanks to
8					Almighty god
10					Monday morning 2d February
12					the wind Very scant we have
2					run past Martinico & In sight
4					of Dominico have about the wind
6					Straight ahead we fear we shall
8					not be able to make the Island
10					of martinico stood back & forth
12					all Day and do not seem to gain
					as we expect the Current takes
					against us

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Tuesday morning 3d February
2					this morning appear to be Contiguous
4					Nearer the Island the wind Somewhat
6					more to the northward and back &
8					forth all day & light Head Wind
10					to Southward which we expected
12					would be an advantage —
2					Wednesday morning 4 February
4					we were to the Southward East
6					of the Island have about past Yes-
8					Day Tuesday to the Northward
10					till Last as the wind would admit
12					about ten the wind came round more
					to Southward we got opposite St Pierre
					a Tolerable breese but at Dusk It became
					Calm which It was all night

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

R

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Thursday morning 5 February 1795
2					A fine morning but Calm we being
4					About four miles below the Town of
6					St Pierre wishing to get in as soon as
8					possible Let our boat Down and she
10					Leaked so fast as two men could
12					bail were obliged to hoist her
2					in again & go to covers of her
4					When we got off first the Town
6					I hired a boat & went on shore
8					even it was a little after twelve
10					found General Arnold at his
12					house went Down & got the Vessel
					in about two o'clock afternoon
					preparing to take in Sugars
					on freight

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Friday 6th 1795
2					A fine morning preparing to
4					give the bottom a little tar to the
6					made day Entry & went to work on
8					the Vessels bottom almost finished
10					Saturday morning 7th February
12					got our permit for clearing the Sugar
2					Often the Vessel got the Vessel
4					ready to take in only waiting on
6					Sugars
8					Sunday morning 8th all our
10					family well & a fine morning
22					We expect to morrow to begin
					To take in Sugars on freight

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	[illegible]

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions monday 9 February 1795
2					I went on shore this morning for
4					order to get the Sugars along
6					side but found poor Encouragement
8					for this days work were pretty
10					much idle this Day waiting for
12					Sugars which we were to take the freight ~~agree~~ Agreed
2					With two men as taylors
4					to go with us To Nes York
6					at Sixteen Dollars Pr
8					Month
10					Tuesday 10 Very little Don Toward
12					getting in freight

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Wednesday 11th February
2					got in 17 Hhds Sugar & two barrels
4					one Hh & 1 Bag Coffee for mr.
6					Blakely three Tierces Clayed
8					Sugars for myself & son hides
10					for General Arnold
12					Thursday 12th February 1795 —
2					Very little prospect of much more
4					freight
6					Friday 13th
8					Dennis, He was soon after taken
10					sick and died at Sea — He was my Mothers first Husband —
12					John D. Bancroft

This closes the journal of John & yet bear his name —

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

Reduced 1/3

Permanent

No. 1711

One hundred Twenty —

In Pursuance of an Act of the Congress of the United States of America, entitled, "An Act *concerning the registering and recording of Ships or Vessels.*" Stephen Ward Junr. of the City County State of New York Merchant having taken or subscribed the Oath required by the said act and having sworn that he together with William Ward of the City County State aforesaid Merchant are the

only owners of the ship or vessel called the Commerce of New York whereof Benjamin Swift is at present master, (and is a citizen of the United States, as he hath sworn)

and that the said ship or vessel was built at Long Island in the State of New York in the year Seventeen hundred ninety three as appears by the Certificate of Register bearing date the twenty first day of September 1793 issued at the port of Fairfield State of Connecticut and now given up to be cancelled on account of transfer of property And John C. Holly acting Surveyor of the District of Fairfield and Certificate of Register above mentioned having certified that the said ship or vessel has no deck and one mast and that

her length is Sixty Feet
her breadth Twenty Feet
her depth Seven Feet
and that she measures Twenty and 7/95 tons;

that she is a Square Stern Sloop has the Gallery (and bow head; And the said Stephen Ward Junr having agreed to the description and admeasurement above specified, and sufficient security having been given according to the said act, the said Sloop has been duly registered at the port of New York

Given under ~~my~~ our Hands and Seals at the Port of New York this twenty sixth Day of May in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and ninety five

Book 1 - Page 171 of Moretown Land Records.

171 Jesse Gilbert Deed to David Bancroft

Know all men by these Presents: that I Jesse Gilbert of Hampton in the County of New Haven and State of Connecticut for the in Consideration of the Sum of Three hundred Dollars Federal Currency — to me in Hand paid before the Delivery hereof by David Bancroft of Catskill Ulster County and State of New York the receipt whereof I do hereby Acknowledge Have Given Granted bargained and sold and by these presents do give Grant bargain Sell Convey and Confirm unto him the said David Bancroft & to his Heirs & Assigns forever the following Lands lying in Moretown in the County of Washington & State of Vermont viz the original Rights of Nungamon Higgins James Bragalley Joseph Griffin Isaac Miller Thomas Hopkins Ebenezer Brown Jonathan Smith [illegible] Three hundred twenty acres of the Right Henry Whitney One hundred Acres of the Right of Joseph Colburn & one Hundred Acres of the Right of Ezekiel Bragalley Containing Three Hundred Acres — To have and to hold the above granted Bargained Premises with all the privileges and appurtenances thereunto belonging to him the said David Bancroft his Heirs and Assigns to his and their sole proper use and behoof forever and I the said Jesse Gilbert do for myself my Heirs Executors and Administrators Covenant to and with the said David Bancroft his Heirs Executors and Administrators that at and until the Ensealing and Delivery of these I am well Seized of the premises in my own Right of a good indefeasible Estate of Inheritance and that I have Good Lawful Authority to bargain and sell the premises in manner and form as is above Written and that the said granted Premises are free and clear of all incumbrances whatever and that I shall and will Warrant and Defend the same to him the said David Bancroft against all and all Claims and Demands of all Persons whatever — In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal this [illegible] day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight — Signed Sealed and Delivered in presence of

Jesse Gilbert Seal

D. Davis
D. Wing Junr

Calledonia County ss — Hartford Oct. [illegible] 1788
This Day personally appeared Jesse Gilbert [illegible] the foregoing instrument and [illegible] the same to be his free act and deed before me David Wing Junr Justice of the Peace

Harvey Bancroft (A) 1795 1795

Eternal & ever blessed God! I desire to present myself before thee with the deepest humiliation and abasement of soul; sensible how unworthy such a sinfull worm is to appear before the holy Majesty of heaven, the King of Kings & Lord of Lords and especially on such an occasion as this, even to enter into a covenant Transaction with Thee. But the scheme and plan is thine own. Thine infinite condescention hath offered it by thy Son, and thy Gr[redacted]alth inclinee my hart to accept of it.

I come acknowledging myself to have been a great offender humbly Praying that God would be mercyfull to me a sinner! I come invested by the Name of thy son, and wholly trusting to his perfect righteousness, intreating that for his sake thou wilt be mercyfull to my unrighteousness and wilt no more remember my sin, receive thy revolted creature & beseach thee who is now convinced of thy right to him and desires nothing somuch as that he may be thine!

I do this day with utmost solemnity surrender myself to thee I renounce all former Lords that have had dominion over me; and I consecrate to thee all that I am and all that I have the faculties of my mind the members of my body, my whole possessions my time and my influence over others; to be all used intirely for thy glory, and readily employed in obedience to thy commandments as long as thou continuest me in life, with an ardent desire and humble resolution to continue thine throug all the endless ages of eternity: ever holding myself in an attentive posture to observe the first intimation of thy will, and ready to spring forward with zeal and joy to the immediate execution of it. To thy direction also I resign myself and all I am and have to be disposed of by thee in such a manner as thou in thy infinite wisdom judgest most subservient to the purpose of thy glory

Harvey Bancroft (B) 1795

To thee I leave the managements of all events and say without reserve not my will but thine be done! rejoicing with a loyal Heart in thine unlimited government as what ought to be the delight of the whole creation. Use me Oh! Lord I beseech thee as an Instrument of thy Glory! Number me among thy peculiar people! let me be washed in the blood of thy dear son! let me be clothed with his righteousnes! let me be sanctified by his spirit! transform me more and more into his image! Impart to me through him all needfull influences of thy purifying, cheering and comforting spirit! and let my life be spent under those influences and in the light of thy gratious countenance as my Father and my God.

And when solemn hour of death comes may I remember thus thy covenant well ordered in all things and sure. as all my salvation and all my desire though every other hope and enjoyment is perishing! and do thou remember it too! and then look down with pity Oh! my heavenly Father on thy languishing dying child! embrace me in the Arms of thy mercy Put strength and confidence into my departing Spirit! and receive it to the abode of them that sleep in Jesus peacefully and joyfully to wait the accomplishment of thy great promises to all thy people even that of a Glorious resurrection and of eternal happiness in thine heavenly presence!

And if any surviving friend should, when I am in the dust meet with this memorial of my solemn transaction with thee may he make the engagement his own and do thou graciously admit him to partake with all the blessings of thy covenant through Jesus

Harvey Bancroft (C) 1795

the great mediator of the to whom with the O! Father
and thy holly spirit be everlasting praises ascribed
by the Millions who are redeemed by thee and
by all those other unsearchable merits of whose work
and bloodshed those shall call Christ Saviour & Lord.
Glorious Jehovah, one God in three persons
before thee and all thy saints and angels I prostrate
with deep abasement of mind & contrition of soul
desire to set my hand humbly trusting thy grace
to enable me to do it, and perform the obligations
of this covenant to thy glory and exaltation through
Jesus Christ Amen. Harvey Bancroft

Date August 30th 1795

Signed by Jesse Bradford witness

Harvey (6) who died 1797 an uncle of Dr. John
D. Bancroft. P. M. B.

I have not identified this John Bancroft but this document establishes the fact that there were Bancrofts here before Dr. David Bancroft arrived. P.M.B.

PC -46b

226 against all claims or demands of my self my heirs Executors or Administrators or any person claiming by from or under me as witness my hand and seal this 18th Day of February 1797

Signed sealed and Delivered in presents of
Elias Harwood
Amos Kellogg

John Bancroft 2d

Rutland County ss May 16th 1797
Personally appeared John Bancroft signer and sealer of the above instrument and acknowledged the same to be his free act & deed before me

Amos Kellogg Jus Peace

April the 3d 1798 Received and Recorded the above D E E D. John Lowe Clerk

Know all Men by these presents

Dear son. An unavoidable
Attention to you that
Stop you have not
your Brother comes after

Dilworth Page 100
3d Sum Draper

Rule
When there is no given
number in the Question, but only a
remainder, take the difference between
the Question and the respect of the Question
and from again the Question or add
Quiver and work as before and add
found work in the Question and
and if the sum equals the given num
ber found your work is right

PC - 49

A most unimpressive scrap of paper. Used for calculation and finally to repair the binding of an old book.

But in some respects a most valuable record.

On page 49 Dr. David developed a first draft of a note to his son expressing his regret at their separation. The boy was staying with the Oothoudts while Dr. David in ill health was trying to farm.

On page 50 is the first draft of a note by Dr. David Bancroft to the Oothoudts who had requested that he indenture the boy to them. This would be equivalent to modern day adoption.

Dr. David knew full well that the wealthy Oothoudts could give the boy many advantages. But he also knew that endentured children were often "used" and denied an education. He finally permitted the boy to live with them much of the time until he was 15 yrs old. But then Dr. David guided him through ten years of school teaching and finally through a medical education, to become the successful Dr. John Demarest Bancroft of Harpursville.

PMB.

Reduced 25 %

PC - 50

#1928

Dear Sir I have received your letter of the 15th & should be glad to Oothoudt or anyother about Dear acct what he wishes to do for him unless he will keep him in a good School I am unwilling he should have him at his House another Night. If he will engage to keep him in a good School keep him out of bad practices and Habits and return him to Albany, at any time when he or I shall wish it, I will agree that he may take him home, other ways I wish him not, take him out of my Care. I had rather have him without me in School but if he can be in School, well provided and [illegible] and [illegible] I should be glad

ca 1809
Is this David
and J. D. B
yes.

A true Copy of the original Patent
Attest John Swan Patentee
yr. 1810, April

PC - 50

Copy of
Patent to J. Swan
of
Bee-Hives
1810

1811

The United States of America

To all to whom these Letters Patent shall come
Whereas John Swift a Citizen of the United States hath alledged
that he has invented a new and useful Improvement in
Bell Flues which Improvement he states has not been
known or used before his application has made Oath that
he does verily believe that he is the true Inventor or discoverer
of the said Improvement has paid into the Treasury of the United
States the Sum of thirty Dollars delivered a Receipt for the same
and presented a Petition to the Secretary of State signifying a
desire of obtaining an exclusive property in the said Improvement
and praying that a Patent may be granted for that purpose
These are therefore to grant according to Law to the said —
John Swift his Heirs, Administrators or Assigns for the
term of fourteen Years from the eleventh day of April 1810
the full and exclusive Right & liberty of making constructing
using & vending to others to be used the said Improvement
a description of which is given in the words of the said
John Swift himself in the Schedule hereunto annexed
and is made a part of these presents — In testimony
whereof I have caused these Letters to be made Patent
and the seal of the United States to be hereunto
affixed — Given under my hand at the City
of Washington this eleventh day of April in the
year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred ten
and of the Independence of the United States of
America the thirty fourth

L S

By the President James Madison

Robert Smith Secretary of State

City of Washington
to Wit
I do hereby certify
that the foregoing
Letters Patent were delivered to me on the eleventh day of April 1810 to be
examined that I have examined the same and find them
conformable to Law and I do hereby return the same to the
secretary of State within fifteen days from the date aforesaid
to Wit the eleventh day of April in the year aforesaid

C. A. Rodney Attorney General of the United States

The Schedule referred to in these Letters patent and making part of the same containing a description in the words of the said John Swett of his Bee-Hive

The Hive consists of several Boxes fastened by a Gripe the Boxes being generally about 16 Inches high 14 Inches wide and 6 Inches thick having one Inch or more about 3 Inches square cut thro their centre and a small mouth upon each side at the bottom the Gripe is composed of a Board fitted to the front of the Hive a narrow piece of Board each side of the Hive the first ends of which are nailed to the Board in front of the Hive they have a mortice cut thro them at the back of each Box thro which a small piece of timber passes and across the back of the hive between which and a Board fitted to the back of the Hive Wedges are driven which hold the Boxes closely together the number of Boxes may be increased or diminished by removing the stick crossing the back from one mortice to another - The Boxes composing the Hives should always be of the same size in the same Hive that when a Box of Honey is taken away an empty one may be inserted and that Boxes may be taken from large and full Hives to feed Queens or small ones. When a Box of Honey is taken away it should be carried some distance from the Hive ~~it should be~~ placed in inverted order the Bees will then desert it and return to the Hive

John Swett

Witnesses { Ira Swett
Jairus Thomson

To Susan Birdsall - Poughkeepsie

Otsego County Town of Unadilla February 19 1818?

Dear child I would Inform you that for the most part
Since you have Been absent we have Engoyed our health
as well as Usual the measles hath lately Come Into the
family they have all got better Except Laura She is now
Breaking out your friends and Aquantance are generally well
we have Recived two letters from you and was happy to find
that you was well and well Satisfied with the Usage you have
Recived But the greatest Satisfaction was to hear that your
mind Appears to Be in things of a Spiritual nature may
that Being who is the true light to Shine Into your ~~your~~
heart that you may Be able to Comprehend the Great
and Glorious work of Redemption our absence hath not
in the Last wearied our ~~to~~ affection for you if as you hint
your first letter you have Chosen the path of virtue
I trust your Conduct will Sincerely prove it to Be the
Case the hand of providence hath Separated us for how long
is Unknown to us May we Conduct so wisely that if our
Next Meeting must Be when the Nations of the Earth are
gathered to hear their final doom May we meet with joy.
Pray accept these few lines together with our Best wishes
We Remain your Indulgent parents John Birdsall
Remember us to our Enquiring friends Mary Birdsall

L S S

Dear Sister I must close this letter with a
few lines to you I am very anxious to hear from you
this is the third letter we have wrote since we have
had any from you do not be neglectful about writing
for be assured the greatest consolation that I feel
Lock in my Lonsome hours is in perusing your

kind letters I would Inform you that I have had a very agreable visit in the town of Hertford this winter our friends were all in good health there except uncle Nathans youngest child that had the inflamation on the lungs I dont think there is any probability that it is living now I went home with uncle and cousin and returned with Mr Hanam I was gone 11 days

Mr Smith and Margaret is preparing for a visit to Greenbush they calculate to set out on their journey by the 25 of Dec this letter they will carry to Greenbush I want to know whether you have ever received any that we have put in the post office.

I have not time to write any more at present

I am with respect
your affectionate
Sister
Tacy Birdsall

P.S.

Mother thinks it is not best for you to trouble yourself about a great coat she will make you one if she lives untill next fall

Good Advice (A9

Advice

Observe and mark as well as you may, what is the temper and disposition of those persons, whose speeches you hear, whether they be grave, serious, wise, discreet, sober, persons. If they be such, their speeches commonly are like themselves, and well deserve your attention and observation. But, if they be light, impertinent, vain, passionate, persons, their speech is for the most part accordingly; and the best advantage that you will gain by their speech, is but thereby to learn their disposition, to discern their failings, and to make your self more cautious both in your conversation with them, and in your own speech and deportment ~~with them~~, for in the unseemliness of their speech you may better discern and avoid the like in yourselves. If any person, that you do not very well know to be a person of truth, sobriety and weight, relate strange stories, be not a ready or easy to believe them, nor report them after him. You may tell them to be one of your familiar acquaintance, be not too forward to contradict him, or to the prejudice of the reputation of any, yet to declare your opinion of what is so reported, let it be modestly and gently, not too blunt or coarsely. By this mean, on the one side you will avoid being a dupe by your credulity; on the other side, you will avoid much contention and distaste. If any man speak anything to your disadvantage or reproach of any one that is absent, let not you ready to believe it only observe and remember it, to see whether it be true, or it is not all true, or some other circumstances were mingled with it which might give matter reported a justification, or at least an allay, an extenuation, or a reasonable excuse. If any person report unto you some injury done to you by another, either in words or deeds, be not too hasty in believing it, nor suddenly angry with the person so accusing it, it is possible it may be false or mistaken; and now if it simply a thing will not be, when you credulity and passion shall persuade you upon a supposed injury, to do wrong to him that has injured you more. When a person is accused or reported to have done you, before you give you will leave to be angry, think with yourself, why should I be angry before I am certain it is true;

Good advice (D)

19. Be careful not to interrupt another in his talk: hear him out, you will understand [illegible] in the better, and be able to give him the better answer. It may [illegible] if you will give him leave, he will say some thing more than you have heard, or will understood, or that which you did not expect. Always before you speak, especially where the business is of moment, consider before hand, weigh the sense of your mind, which you intend to ~~speak~~ utter; think upon the expression you intend to use; that they may be significant, pertinent, and inoffensive; and whereas it is the ordinary course of inconsiderate persons to speak their words, and then to think, or ~~not~~ to think till they ~~have spoken~~ speak; think first and speak after; if it be any matter of seriousness or moment. 20 Be sure you give not an ill report of any that you are not ~~sure do not~~ deserved it. And in most cases though a man deserve ill, yet you should be sparing to report him: in some cases indeed you are bound, in honesty and justice, to give the account concerning the demerit or defaut of a person that he deserves. 21. Avoid scoffing, and bitter and biting jeering, and jesting, especially of the condition, credit, deformity, or natural defects of any person: for these leave a deep impression, and are most apparent injuries, for were you so used; you would take it amiss; and many times it cost a man dear; when he little thinks of it. 22. Be very careful that you give no reproachful, bitter, menacing, or spiteful words to any person: nay not to servants or other persons of inferior condition. There is no person so mean but that you may stand in need of him in one kind or some time or other. Good words make friends, bad words make enemies: it is the best prudence in the world to make all the friends you honestly can. 23. If there be occasion for you to speak in any company, always be correct if you speak at all, to speak last, especially if strangers are in company for by this mean you will have the advantage of knowing the sense, judgment, temper, and relations of others, which may be a great light to you in ordering your speech: and you will better know the inclination of the company, and speak with more advantage and acceptation and with more security against giving offence. Be careful that you commend not yourself: it is the most useless thing that can be. You should avoid flatery from others, but especially decline flatering yourself. Abhor all foul, unclean and obscene speeches: Never use any profane speeches, nor make jest of scriptures expressions. When you use the names of God or Christ, or any passage or any word of the holy scripture, use them with reverence and seriousness, and not lightly or carelessly, for it is taking the name of God in ~~vain~~ vain

Good Advice (B)

or if you can tell how much I should be angry if I knew the whole matter! Though it may be he has done, but you yet possibly it is misrepresented, or it was done by mistake, or may be he is sorry for it. — I will not be angry till I am [illegible] and it may be enough, yet I will not be angry at all, till I know the whole case; for till then, it I must be angry at all, I know not how much to be angry; it may be it is not worth my anger or if it be, it may be it deserves but little. — This will recommend mind and carriage upon such occasions in a due temper, and will disappoint malicious and officious tale-bearers. —

2. If a man who integrity you do not very well know make you great and extraordinary professions and premises, give him no king thanks as possible, but give not much credit to it. Think about ~~you~~ with yourself what may be the reason of his wonderful kindness; it is twenty to wone but you find something that he aims at, besides kindness to you.

3. If a man flatter you to your face, or to one that he knows will tell you of it, it is a thousand to one, either he has [illegible] deceive you some way, or means to do so.

4. Remember the folly of the fox and the crow; the fox commended the sing of the crow, when she had some thing in her mouth that the fox wanted. If a person be choleric, passionate, and give you ill language, remember, first, rather to pity him than to be moved into anger and passion with him, for most certainly that man is distempered and disordered. — Observe him calmly, and you shall see in him so much perturbation and disturbance that you will easily believe that he is not a fitting to be imitated by you, and therefore return not choler for anger; for you do but put yourself into a kind of frenzy, as you see him so. Be sure you do not return railing for railing or reviling for reviling; for it doth but kindle more heat, and you will find silence, or at least very gentle words, the most exquisite revenge for reproaches that can be; for either it will cure the distemper in the other, and make him go and be sorry for his passion, or it will torment him with more perturbation and disturbance. Some men are excellent in the knowledge of husbandry, some in planting, some

Good Advice. (C) the mathematics, some in one kind some
in another; in all your conversation, learn as you can where
in the skill and excellence of any person lies, and hear him
or talk of that subject and observe it and keep it in memory
for ever; by this means you will glean up the worth and ex-
cellence of every person you meet with, and at ~~and~~ at an easy
rate pick to gether that which may be for your ~~you~~ use on
occasions — Converse not with a liar, or a swearer, or
a man of obscene or wanton language; for either he will cor-
rupt you, or at least it will hazard your reputation to be
one of the like making. And if it doth neither, yet it
will fill your memory with such discourses, that will be
troublesome to you in after time; and the returns of the remem-
brances of the passages which you long since heard or saw
nature will haunt you when your thoughts should
be better imployed. — Let your speech be true; never shun
any thing for the truth which you know or believe to be false.
It is a great sin against God, who gave you a tongue, to speak
you offence against humility itself; for where there is no truth
there can be no safe verily society between man and man.

As you must be careful not to lie, so you must avoid com-
ing near to it; you must not equivocate, you must not
speak that absolutely, which you have by hearsay or relation;
you must not speak that as upon knowledge which you have
but by conjecture or opinion only. Let your words be few, espe-
cially when your betters or strangers, or men of experience or
understanding, are present; for you do yourself at one two great
mischiefs. First, you betray and discover your own weakness
and folly. Secondly, you rob yourself of that opportunity which
you might otherwise have to gain knowledg, wisdom, and experi-
ence, by hearing those whom you silence by your impertinent
talking. 17. Be not over earnest, loud or violent in talking; for it is
unseemly: and earnest and loud talking make you over short upon
your self and loose your hearings. When you should be considering
and pondering your thoughts, and how to express them significantly
and to the purpose, you are striving to keep your tongue going

This may certify that Marriage was solemnized between Lapel Gibbs and Lucy Wm both of Moretown this 28th Jan 1811 —
by me D. Bancroft Just
Abner Child Town Clerk

This may certify that Rufus Clapp and Martha Spatding were joined in marriage this 28th Feb 1811 both of Moretown
D Bancroft J. Just Peace
Abner Child Town Clerk

Book 1 Page 2, Moretown Records
Births, deaths & Marrieges

State of Vermont } Be it remembered that at
Chittenden County } Moretown in the County aforesaid
on the 19th Day of Jan in the Year of our
Lord 1811 David Bancroft Esq and Lydia
Blodgett both of Moretown in the County
and State aforesaid were duly joined in
marriage by me —
Amna Munson J. Peace
Abner Child Town Clerk

State of Vermont } Be it Remembered that at
Washington County } Moretown Leonard Morse of
Cambridge and Betsy Fuller were duly joined
in Marriage on the 8th Day of March 1812 by me
Abner Child Justice of Peace
Abner Child Town Clerk

State of Vermont } Be it Remembered that at
Washington County ss } Moretown Reuben Parkhurst and
Rachael Parkhurst were duly joined in Marriage
by me July 28th 1813 Abner Child Justice of Peace —
Abner Child Town Clerk —

State of Vermont } Be it Remembered that at Moretown
Washington County ss } June the 15th 1813 Levi Day and
Polly Hewitt were duly joined in Marriage

Dear Honoured Grandmother

It is with the greatest reverence and affection I address the most honourable of Parents; especially when I recollect the tender regard you had for my welfare in this life, and that which is to come, the many hours you spent, and the unwearied pains you took to lay the foundation of my education; but, O! how heedless was I to your admonition, and would none of your ~~[illegible]~~ admonition inattentive to your instructions!

My Grandfather I likewise disobeyed, for which I am sincerely sorry. I wished to see him whilst alive, to express my sorrow, and receive his blessing, but he is gone to the world of spirits, and we ~~all must~~ must prepare sooner or later to follow him. We heard of his death July 27th by way of Mr Robinson. Grief and sorrow filled our hearts, not so much on the account of his death, for we considered that he had gone to the world of bliss, and was happier than we could make him here below were real happiness in our power; But because we knew it would be a heavy blow to you, and because we had it not in our power to administer to his necessities, and render his passage to the tomb as easy and gentle as possible.

We received your letter the second of August, and rejoiced that you were yet alive and able to write, and blessed God who had put in the will and power of your Grandson to administer to your necessities, and console in your grief; though it hath pleased him in his wisdom to put it out of power —

My Father's misfortunes has made it impossible for us to visit or assist you at present. We all wish to see you, the impossibility of your coming to us we know, and therefore shall hasten to you — Our health by the blessing of God is ~~and~~ at present and has been ~~so~~ very good since you have heard from us —

When I left Vermont I did not expect that that was the last time we should see each other this side the grave. But alas! four of my nearest relations are no more. My mother is very kind to me she values your present very high, and sends her thanks for it. Give my respects to ~~cousin Nathaniel and~~ all my acquaintance.

Wishing you all the happiness possible I subscribe my self your humble and affectionate Grandson

G. L. Bancroft

Mr David Bancroft

Dear Cousin, Sangerfield Je

In ~~[illegible]~~ to render ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~

Sangerfield Sept 2d 1819

Dear Brother

With pleasure I embrace this opportunity to write to you hoping for the future to be in a situation which will enable me to write oftener than formerly — I have enjoyed a tolerable good state of health since my last — When I shall be in circumstances that will admit of my visiting you is uncertain but I hope it wont be long for I wish to see you and the rest of my acquaintance in your vicinity. [illegible]

1. It was early one Sunday morning just as day was going to break,
I had no time to bind over that I was free,
Bad company enticed me to take a flowing bowl,
And the advance money they gave me was a guinea and a crown.

2. It was early the next Monday morning just at the break of day,
Our captain ordered his sergeant to march us all away
They march'd us off in rank and file to leave our native shore,
Adieu adieu to my true love I never shall see her more,

3. My love is lately enlisted and has taken a cockade,
My love is a proper tall young man like wise a roving blade.
My love is a proper tall young man he is a fighting for his King,
And now he is gone to forsake me all for the ends of

4. Now Polly she is lamenting for the loss of her true love.
She sigh'd and said she never thought that you & I should part
I never gave my hand said she to any man but you
And now you are a going to leave me in sorrow grief & woe!

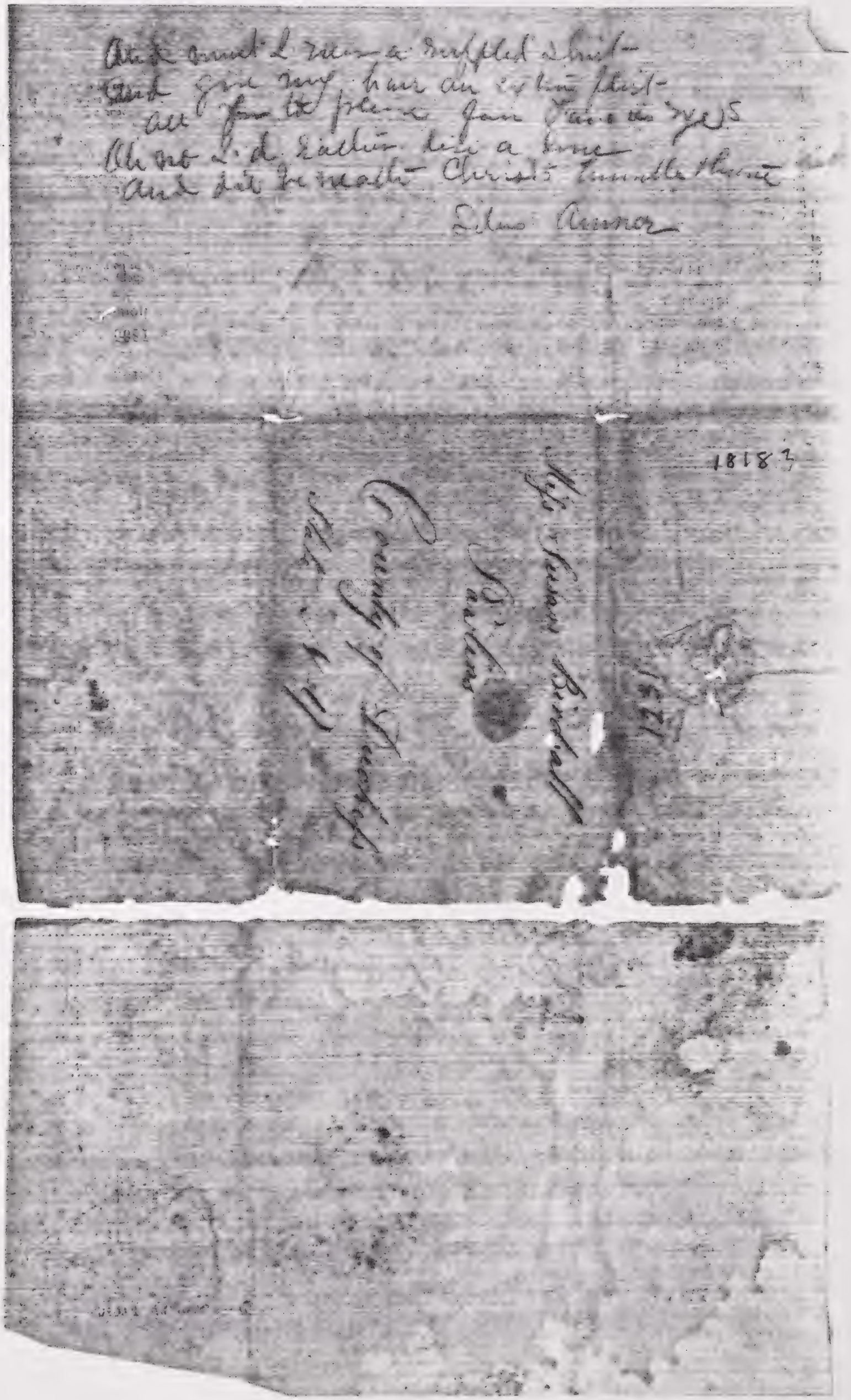
[illegible] you leave me in sorrow grief [illegible]
[illegible] you have [illegible] to grow
I wish you more prosper what ever you undertake
[illegible] that you do marry me before you go away

O Polly I'll go with you [illegible] Amsterdam
O Polly I'll go with you as far as [illegible] I can
Be quiet on your sorrow while I rest my drowsy head will lay
When the drum beats in the morning my dear I must away
He took his pocket handkerchief and wiped his parting eyes
Cheer up, cheer up, my pretty young girl while we cross the main
Cheer up, cheer up, my pretty young girl likewise throw mournful care
Then you and I will married lover when I return again

Wish you to remember me to all inquiring friends especially give my love to your wife and children, with this I have enclosed a letter for Sister Nelly — Hoping you and yours are in ~~good~~ enjoying health and prosperity

I remain Sir —
Yours affectionat Brothe
and humble servent
John D Bancroft

Henry B Demarest



Oh Lord I want a ruffled spirit
And give my heart an evening flight
All from the plains from Canaan's yes
Where I do rather live a time
And let me reach Christ's Tumble there

Silas Amor

1818?

Mr Silas Amor
Pittsfield
Berkshire Co
Massachusetts

Art is gained by great labour and industry.

A covetous man is always, as he fancies, in want.

Add to your faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge.

Beauty is commendable in some, but it ruins others.

By a commendable deportment we ~~come~~ gain to reputation.

By a delight and some care, we come to write fair.

Contentment is preferable to riches and honour.

Youth is the time for improvement; but how many are under to answer with out any improvement or advantage to themselves or benefit to others — age is honourable to him who has acquired knowledge and virtue — but it is detestable when it brings ignorance & disgrace along with it —

"Love those that love not you — bless those that curse you — do good to them that hate you and pray for those that scornfully abuse you and persecute you" — for this is the Character of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who died for his enemies and prayed for his murderers. The man of this temper must be righteous in all circumstances. He is almost a saint. He is a saint on earth and has arrived to the highest state of perfection, that man, in this mortal state is capable of and most certainly will receive the glory and admitted into the assembly of just men made perfectly! for speedily will he be taken away lest his heart should be corrupted —

Bellone dec

Dear Brother,

It is with the greatest pleasure that I sit down to write to you, and inform you of my health, and present prospects. My health thank God, has been very good since you have heard from me. My prospects are very good at present. I am teaching a school and am to have eleven dollars a month for six months. I began school the twenty eighth of last April. My Father is teaching a school about three miles from me. I therefore have an opportunity of going home Saturdays and returning to school Monday mornings. The week past being very rainy and the roads muddy I did not go home, and as it was not far from the school-house where I was boarding I concluded not to go home to day that I might have an opportunity of writing to you. You must not compute my not writing to you oftener is owing to a want of affection, for be assured that were it in my power I should with the greatest pleasure open a correspondence between us, but circumstances are such and we must submit. As for making you a visit I am afraid that will likewise be out of my power, but I shall come as soon as I can. I have too much to say to you to be able to do it all with the pen. And the rest of my relations and friends. ~~I like well~~ ~~to see them~~ ~~but~~ ~~if~~ I could hear from you and them it would afford me great satisfaction. ~~Tell~~ ~~Mrs~~ ~~Collier~~ my Mother sends her to Mrs Collier complimentes returning her sincere thanks for the handsom present she sent her. Give my compliments to all inquiring friends. Perhaps you would like to know what my employment has been since you have heard from me. Last summer I worked on a farm ~~[illegible]~~ and last winter my Father taught a school four months and I went to school ~~to him~~ and studied grammer till I engaged this school. But you will ask why I did not go and learn the tanners trade? why I will tell you. My Father said if I had a good education I could get into some employment which would prove as profitable as that could and I should be much better ~~able~~ qualified to do business with a good education than I with out it. I wish it was so that you could inform me how yours and Sister Nellys affairs are situated. I long to hear from you all and know your present circumstances especialy Sister Nelly's. I have much more to write but this must suffice for the present. — Wishing you all a pleasant ~~th~~ journey through life I sign ~~my self~~ your most humble and affectionate Brother

John L. Bancroft

Henry C. Demerest

York Well W — 15th June 1817 N. Y.

Pawlins July th 26 1817

Dearly beloved Parents Brothers and Sisters I write. I at this time attempt to give a description of the painful anxiety and suspense I am held in I must fall far short of my intention office it to say I am filled with many conflicting fears and heart felt sorrows on the account of your silence I have not had the least intelligence from you since I first left immediately after I received your kind letter I wrote one in answer to that O my dear friends can it be possible that I am so soon forgotten by you that I am no longer the object of your concern or affection I feel myself to be a poor unworthy child and sister yet not withstanding all my imperfections I feel a strong desire to improve the time and talents God gives me here on earth to his honor and glory. I am yet the shaned monument of Gods amazing mercy enjoying a tolerable good state of health while many of my fellow mortals have of late fallen victims to the grim monster Death in the most remarkable manner our aged uncle James Birdsall has of late been called to pass through the dark valley and shadow of Death but we have great reason to believe he has made a happy exchange he appears wholly resigned to the will of God and with longing expectation for the time when his change should be Aunt Lena Lidoe has had a severe fit of sickness for some considerable time we almost despaired of her ever recovering again but God of his over infinite goodness and mercy has seen fit to spare her a little longer O may she make a wise improvement of her precious moments and repent of her sins before the door of mercy is forever closed. O my dear friends did you know how much I want to hear from you since I am deprived of the privilege of seeing you it appears to me you would overcome every obstacle that bars the way I sometimes fear that I have wrote something that is displeasing to you if this be the case deal with me as with a child but God knows my heart that I feel myself clear of any intentional wound I have neglected writing sometime hoping soon to hear from you but my earnest desire still fails for reasons unknown to me through the goodness of my Creator many inestimable privileges are still granted me for which I think I feel truly thankfull when the true spirit of humility and Godly sincerity reigns in my soul then I feel

1220

Mr John Birdsall
Hamburg
Otsego County
State of New York

Caulkins & Tracy
Aug 29 1842
Pd

to acknowledge that His ways are perfectly right and just although his footsteps are planted in the great deep the plan of mans salvation through a glorious Redeemer the beauties and excellences of the humble religion of Jesus appears as precious to me as ever it did I feel greatly wonder many times to see the cause of my blessed Jesus so much neglected his fastings and his holy groans are made the drunkards song. Oh how does iniquity abound and the love of many is waxing cold many that have given the fairest proofs of piety and true religion it seems as though they have given themselves up to work all manner of unrighteousness and despise every thing that is good it has been it becomes us to be ever looking to Jesus for sufficient in these days of trial and adversity nothing but his almighty power and grace is able to carry us through and landed safe on our Canaan peaceful shore I hope my dear friends that you are enjoying the peaceful smiles of a reconciled God we to the privileges God has given us in obedience to the commands of our blessed Lord and master denying ourselves of all ungodliness bearing our cross from day to day this will yield us more heartfelt satisfaction than all the applause of this vain world this I speak I know by experience. I have many careful hours to think I should ever be left to join with the wicked world as much as I do but I have one thing to comfort me we Christian company and conversation is what I still delight in Although a great part of my time I am deprived of their precious company I have some very comfortable hours of meditation was my hour but a substance you would often see something drawing and wing you but as it is so ordained that we must still be separated for a short season let us strive to be ready considering it will be but a short time the Lord willing we shall meet again I cant help but look forward with a kind of pleasing delight to the day when I shall once more behold those that are near and dear to me I think now that I shall be at my Fathers the last of September or first of october Cousin Stark and his family has been down to make us a visit I made some considerable preparation to return with them but yielding to the persuasion of my friends I consented to stay with them a little longer

Dearly beloved sister last saturday day I enjoyed a day
as I have long been wishing for I attended a Church meeting
at Elder Johnsons meeting house it was a refreshing season
I trust to many poor souls it was a very comfortable time
to ~~us~~ me I felt glad to find them as well as I did I could
not confine my thoughts they were often with my brothers
and sisters in your part of the world considering that you
were all met there in the bowels of love and compassion the
day following we had a very excellent sermon from the
45 Psalm 3 and 10 verses we are favored with a excellent
preacher on the circuit I feel in hopes he may be a means
of doing much good I purpose going to hear him to morrow
dear sister I am often stopped when I get to anticipating
on the joys of returning home it will seem to come
with great force and power on my mind perhaps ere
that day shall arrive ~~when~~ my body may be laid in
the cold grave I grave the spirit flown to God that gave it
but surely there is a day past approaching when we must
appear before the judgement seat of Christ there to give an
account for the deeds done here in the body O dear sister how
shall we in that dread day will it be with joy that we shall
behold the Judge descending in the clouds of heaven with
all his holy angels or will it be with grief and horror that we
shall ~~it~~ see him coming to take vengeance on all them
that love him not O may this be our greatest concern to pre
pare for that solemn day that awaits us all I could willing
ly spend the rest of this night in writing to you but duty
calls another way I would just inform you that Aunt
Pearce has lately received a letter from Aunt Havelyand
she writes that her family are enjoying tolerable good health
she dont write any thing in particular about Rebecca the
more we conclude our intelligence was false Cousin Sally
appears very anxious you should write to her I must now
close these imperfect lines with wishing you all the
comforts and happiness that this world can afford and
eternal felicity in the world to come Adieu for the
present receive this as a token of friendship from one
who loves you all

Tacy Berissa C Pease to give my love to all
that may have the curiosity to enquire after me tell them
a few lines from any one feels willing it will be
received with gratitude by their friend and well wisher

Gallipolis April the 19th 1818

Dear friend

I improve this opportunity of writing to informe you that Stephen landed heare in Gallipolis with mother & the children the 6 day of April Simeon Lifton & Mr Griffis landed here with them Farther has rented a farme on very good terms & has got provisions enough to make them comfortable until he can raise more they are all well at present & very well contented

Mother does not lik the Country as well as she expected to but I think she will like it better when she becomes more acquainted with it. Aunt Lucy has been out of health since she has been here but she is now in better health than she has been in in some time Benjamen & James Lifton lives in Athens about forty four miles from this place John & Amos Lifton has moved to the State of Indiana three hundred miles further down the River Stephen & Lucinda Lifton both live with the people I have lived with for a year past Stephen has hired for six months to work at farming business at fiftien dollars per month

Wages is very good at all sorts of business Flower is three dollars per hundred Broken ten dollars Corn from fifty to sixty two & a half cents per Bushel

Dry shop goods are quite as cheap as they are in Wadilda they tell me

those that came from there
I have nothing more ~~[illegible]~~ to write
At present ~~[illegible]~~ except to let you know
that I was married the 12th of febuary to
a girl by the name Sally W. Dutnam
We began hous keeping April 5th
Farther & mother & the Rest of the fam-
lys sends their love to you all give my
Re Spects to uncle John & Aunt mary
And all the Rest of th family
Do not Bee so neglectful as I have been
But write to me as soon as you
Receive this - I must conclude my
Wishing you every needed blessing
on time and eternity - I Remain
your affecthonate Cousin
Nathan Birdsall

Henry Lifton

Randolph July 21th 1818.

Dear Brother & Sister,

It is a long time since we have heard from you. We rec'd a letter from you dated March the 28, which informed us of your health & marriage, which was very unexpected. I hope that you are in the hands of that God who governs & directs all things. On account of the distance between us we cannot express our love to each other face to face, yet we are blessed with the means of conversing together by riting. And we must improve our time whilst it lasts, for our time is short, & so prepare for death, our last & solemn change. We are all hastening to a boundless eternity, where hope can never come. We are all working out our time, and "now is the accepted time & now is the day of salvation."

Before I proceed any farther I will inform you of my health which at present is very good, likewise the rest of the family enjoy tolerable good health. Pen cannot describe how I want to see you all. O! how I wish that God in his allwise providence might ~~send~~ permit you all to come and see us.

We have heard from all of our friends, they are well. You must not fail of writing every opportunity that you have. I rec'd a letter from Dimorest, which informs us that Lydia had got another son. Father & Mother wish to be remembered to the Doctor & family and you & your family. — I wish to be remembered to the Doctor & family. Tell Henry that I want to see him very much — But I must draw to a close by wishing you health & prosperity. —

E & A Robinson — Cyrus W Robinson. —

"Ah! then, while health & blooming youth are
O'er our frail hearts may Wisdom dart her rays
Her sacred precepts see Religion pours,
To gild the prospect of the closing days."

Randolph July 21th 1818. —

Respected & not forgotten Friend! —

I have long been wishing that you would send me letters & many times excused myself from writing to you knowing that you was my superior both in age & abilities, yet at your request I shall endeavor to write a few lines to let you know that I have not forgotten you

When I look back on past times, when I reflect on the many pleasing moment that I spent in your company fondly anticipat- a day, when we should assist & delight each other in our more mature years, tho I was but a chil my mind is filled with agreeable emotions. And, yet, when I contemplate how that you & Enos use to associate, and that now he is gone to the silent grave, & that Harvey & myself were constant mates and playfellows, and that Harvey is dead & gone. I cannot suppress my grief. How changed the scene! How great the contrast between the past & present time.

But I must not forget to inform you of our hel- come. which is good. You wrote in your letter that you wh- lked of coming to Randolph, I flatter myself with the hope of seeing you once more. But we think that your Father & Mother have quite forgotten us, for it is almost a year since they wrote to us. You desired us in your letter to inform you concerning boarding. I think that ten shillings per week the common price, & I think that you may find a plenty of work. Father & Mother wish to be remembered to you. For want of time I must draw to a close by wishing you all the comforts this life affords.

John D. Bancroft. — Lyrus W. Robinson.

Mr Phunetoffsh 44
Mr July 22

183

Ebenezer Mc Robinson

Springfield, County of Otsego

New York

1287

Lansing August 10 1878

Honored Parents [illegible] to be deserted
resume my pen in order to inform you of the goodness of
God to unworthy me in preserving me still to hope in his mercy
and in keeping me from the blighting stroke. I have been partly
flattering myself that I might see or be favored with the pleasure
of seeing you in the enjoyment of the same blessing, on this account
I have neglected writing to you and as it appears that you are
not left sufficiently for one dumb, insensible to my
wire after my welfare by neglecting my letters there has
[illegible] has appeared many there. (my Father and mother)
in what manner to process are you not under obligations
I have by my disobedience merited your displeasure to
of my errors and endeavor to reclaim a wandering child to
parents I feel as tho I could come on my knees at your
and implore your forgiveness in whatever I may have offended
you but the thought of being cast off by you as a
portable and as a dying creature [illegible] I feel it my
duty to inform you that your treatment to me has be
very trying if the affection of a parent are so easily weaned
from a child to worn shall such a poor helpless wanderer look
for protection if those who have been made the ministering in
ruments of bringing such a worthless wretch into exist
ence and then cast me upon this wide world without
stretch forth the hand of friendship to give me help I am
God to whom I shall be bent unto the for then I hope the word
of eternal life to the [illegible] pour out my complaints in the
reserve for thy love is unchangeable my dear parents be
ve me it would be the greatest consolation I could possibly receive
in this world to hear that you are happy in the enjoyment
of the redeemers love for his loving kindness is better
life I will not dwell too much on my gloomy prospects
present as I am permitted to hope that brighter scenes
yet arise God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to
perform he plants his footsteps in the sea and rides upon the
storm these light afflictions which are but transient shall
work out for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory

12 54

Pulina 12. August 14

To Mr John Birdsall 10½

Hamburg. County of

Otsego. State

N. Y.

I think that I have glorious news to communicate to you Christ
Jesus appears to be passing through the land and winning hearts
us souls I humbly trust have fled to his blood stained banner
and have laid the weapons of their rebellion at his sacred feet
I have been favored with the privilege of seeing 26 volunteers
follow the footsteps of their master in his watery tomb
Samuel Birdsall that lives with Mr Brown was one of
the happy number, Mr Bs eldest daughter and son are
likewise the happy partakers of the same blessing the in-
habitants of Carmel have been visited in most extraordinary
manner I have not visited that place but have been informed
that many souls have fled to the city of refuge and have found
him of whom Moses and the Prophets do write Jesus of Nazar-
eth the son of Joseph O brake forth in singing ye trees of
the wood for Jesus is bringing lost sinners home. I have
been down to Patterson and spent four days of late and O there
that my soul was made to mourn and rejoice at his appearance
I find daily cause to mourn my ingratitude and hardness
of heart to the best of beings my wandering from the fou-
ntain of all good but blessed be God that his compassions fails not
through him we shall be valiant for he it is that shall
tread down our enemies O my dear parents let us not be
discouraged for he is faithful that hath promised do not
let us basely desert our general in the day of battle but let us
endure hardness as good soldiers of the cross O that he may
grant grace to deny ourselves daily that we may go without
the camp bearing his reproach for he hath chosen us to
faithfulness let us not therefore be weary in well doing
for in due time we shall reap if we faint not O my friend.
I think that religion is as good as ever the way of life and sal-
vation through a glorious redeemer beautiful and perfect
consistent I find a saviour every way suited to all my
wants. I want to see you my dear parents more than
tongue can express and the rest of my friends are not
forgotten by me I wish to be remembered to my
Brothers and Sisters, my soul's desire and prayer to God is fo.

their prosperity and happiness in Jesus I feel that I must commend you to God permit unworthy me to share in the prayers of all my dear brethren in the Lord if my dear Father feeles as tho he could receive his wandering child if I do not have an opportunity of returning with the Pearce soon I want you should come after me as soon as you can let me hear from you at least I must close these imperfect lines by wishing you all the happiness a saviours smiles afford though this vale of teares till we shall reach the peaceful shore where sin and pain are known no more accept these from your affectionate child until death -- Susan Birdsall

Lawren wishes me to write a few lines to William he is glad that he is not forgaten by his friends he tells me that he feels more contented than he did with Levi he wants to see his friends very much but he appeares to be considerate he thinks that it is best for him to be separated from them at pre[illegible] remembers his love to his Mother and wishes her not [illegible] uneasy about him.

N.S. Aunt Rebecca has just received a letter from Aunt Hawkins she informs her that she enjoys tolerable good health but her mind is a prey to the sinful sorrow Mariam has left her is she has moved away but they have not parted without hope she thinks that she has fled from the city of destruction and is now on her way to mount Zion rejoicing in God the rock of her salvation this happy change took place last winter a short time before she left her she thinks that Mariams husband has involved them so much that they shall be under the necessity of selling and following them. I am now at uncle Henrys

We whose names are hereunto subscribed do agree to hire Susan Birdsall to teach a common english school for the term of three months in reading writing &c to commence at a convenient season for which we promise to pay unto the said Susan Birdsall the sum of one Dollar and fifty cents per week to be paid at the expiration of said school and also to furnish said school every necessary article for the said school We ~~the~~ subscribe for the number of Children being set to each of our respective names hereunto witness our hands this 31 of March A.D. 1818. 75A

Nuel Dodge jun.	2	1/2
Joseph Dodge	2	1/2
Samuel Allen	2	
Alexander Allen	2	
Robert Burdick	2	

Coughpustown

Samuel Early

Esq.

John Brown

Aug 19-1819

Dear Sister in the Lord if I may be permitted to address you in so endearing a manner but since it appears to be the will of heaven that we should be brought into such near and dear relationship as this I think that it ought to excite in our hearts the most lively gratitude to him who has not spared his own son the dazzling of heaven the brightness of the Father glory was consecrated to come in the likeness of sinful flesh to destroy sin in the flesh and this great work it appears must be accomplished by him as becoming the great propitiatory sacrifice Dear sister stupendous sacrifice indeed and mercy is here exhibited to our view the offender does to purchase life and salvation for those who had without the least shadow of cause given proofs of rebellion against him by joining sides with the powers of darkness But by his meritorious death he hath magnified and made honorable the holy law which mortals broke Dear sister since our relationship has been pursued at such vast expense as this has does it become us not to live to ourselves but to him who has died for us and rose again and is seated on the right hand of the Father whom we shall see coming in the cloud of heaven with power and great glory to take vengance on them that know not God and obey not the gospel

I do not know that I have any good news to communicate to you from this place it appears to be a center season with us here a little die I think last year at this time that I should ever feel as I now do on this fountain of which I find within presses warm my faith and strengthen on all my pages But O the munificence of heaven sustaining my spirit while I am near the sweet the soothing accents which have fallen from his sacred lips I feel to be my place at his feet and catch the healing stream nothing have I of my own to boast in as the atonement which was on Calvary is not sufficient for my salvation I must forever be banished from the presence of God — Dear girl if I could see you I could tell you a great many things which I can not write I wish you could come and see me as my situation is quite lonely at present I have an idea of taking a school the ensuing summer if I can live one term more I think that I should like to come over somewhere as well as any place that I know of if the people in either district should think me capable and worthy of so important a trust as the education of their rising offspring I should like to know soon what their minds would be concerning it the Lord willing I think that I shall be over to meeting have a great whale for I am anxious to see the brethren once more I have be

1200.

informed that elder Hoakim is to preach over there
soon I should be very much pleased if you would be so
kind as to let me know when he is to come if you
cannot come and make me a visit be pleased to favor
me with a few lines I think that we ought to esteem it as a
great privilege that we may communicate the ex
of our minds to each other I find it a pleasure to write
to my friends but you more so to receive a letter of the kind
from them I hope that you will pardon my weakness
in these imperfect lines as I have nothing more that can
be interesting to you at present I will close by subscribing

your most affectionately
Susan Birdsall

To the starry Heavens to us who dwell on its surface, the earth is by far the most extensive on our eyes can anywhere be hold. It is also clothed with verdure; distinguished by trees; and adorned with a variety of beautiful decorations. Whereas, to a spectator placed on one of the planets, it wears a uniform aspect; looks all luminous, and no larger than a spot. To beings who dwell at still greater distances, it entirely disappears.

That which we call, alternately, the morning and evening star, as in one part of its orbit, she rides forwards in the procession of night; in the other, comes in, and anticipates the dawn, is a planetary world; which, with the five others, that so wonderfully vary their mystick dance, are in themselves dark bodies, and shine only by reflection; have fields, and seas, and skies of their own; are furnished with all accommodations for animal subsistence, and are supposed to be the abode of intellectual life. All which, together with our earthly habitation, are dependent on that grand dispenser of divine munificence, the sun, receive their light from the distribution of his rays; derive their comfort from his divine agency. — The sun is the great axle of heaven about which, the globe we inhabit, and other more spacious orbs, wheel their stated courses. The sun, though seemingly smaller than the dial it illuminates, is abundantly larger than this whole earth; on which so many lofty mountains rise, and such vast oceans roll. A line, extending through the centre of that resplendent orb, would measure more than eight hundred thousand miles. A girdle, formed to surround it, would require a length of millions. Were its solid contents to be estimated, the account would overpower our understanding, and be almost beyond the power of language to express. — Are we startled at these reports of astronomy? are we ready to cry out in a transport of surprise, 'How mighty is the Being, who kindled such a prodigious fire, and who keeps it alive, from age, to age, such an enormous mass of flame!'

Let us attend our philosophick guides, and we shall be brought acquainted with speculations more enlarged, and more amazing. This sun, with all attendant planets, is but a very little part of the

grand machine of the universe. Every star, though in appearance no larger than the diamond that glitters on a lady's ring, is really a mighty globe, like the sun in size, and in glory; nobly spacious; no less luminous than the radiant source of our day.

That every star is not barely a world, but the center of a magnificent system, has a retinue of worlds, irradiated by its beams, and revolving round its attractive influence, all which are hidd to our sight in unmeasurable wilds of ~~earth~~ ether.

That the stars appear like so many diminutive and scarcely distinguishable points, is owing to their immense and inconceivable distance. Such a distance that a cannon ball could it continue its unbending flight, in its unabating rapidity, would not reach the nearest of those luminaries in less than five hundred thousand years.

Can any thing be more wonderful than these observations? Yes, there are truths far more astonishing; there are scenes far more exclusive. As there is no end to the Almighty Maker's power, so no imagination can set limits to his creating hand. Could you soar beyond the moon, and pass through all the planetary charts, could you wing your way the regions of the sun, and take your station in one of those lofty luminaries of heaven, you would there see stars still expanded; another sun distributing his inexhaustible beams by day; other stars which gild the horrors of the alternate of the other, at night; and other, perhaps, nobler systems, established in unknown profusion through the boundless dominions of space. Nor do the dominions of the universal Sovereign terminate there. Even at the end of this vast tour, you would find yourself advanced no further than the suburbs of creation; arrived only at the frontiers of the great Jehovah's kingdom.

Advice to a young Gentleman containing Directions how to conduct himself. **Advice to a Young man 1819 (A)**

My dear friend, your apprenticeship is near out and you are soon to set up for your self; that approaching moment is critical one for you, and an anxious one for me.

A tradesman, who would succeed in his way must begin by establishing a character of integrity and good manners; without the former, nobody will go to his shop at all; with that the latter nobody will go there twice. This rule does not exclude the sale of bads. He may sell his goods at the best price he can with in certain bounds. He may avail himself of the humors and the fantastical tastes of his customers but what he warrants to be good must be really so, what he seriously asserts must be true, or his first fraudulent practices will soon end in a bankruptcy. It is the same in all other lines of the world. A man who does not scrupulously establish and really observe a character of mere bodily good manners and good morals, at his first setting out in the world, may imposed for a master or a very short time, but will very soon be shunned and be extinguished with contempt. People easily pardon in young men the common irregularities of the senses, but they do not forgive the least vice of the heart. The head never grows better by age: it grows worse, always harder. A young liar will be an odd one; a young knave will only be a greater one as he grows older.

But should a bad young heart accompanied with a good head (which by the way is seldom the case) really reform in a more advanced age, from a consciousness of its folly as well as of its guilt; such a conversion would only be thought prudential and political but never ~~sincere~~ sincere. I hope in God, and I verily believe that you want no moral virtue. Your character in the world must be build on that solid foundation, or it will soon fall and sink in your own head.

You cannot therefore be too careful, too nice, too scrupulous in establishing this character. [illegible] let no consideration, no company, no fashion, no self-interest [illegible]

PC - 83B

Sangerfield Sept. 2d 1819

Long absent Playfellow

It was with pleasure I read your letter of the 21st of July 1818 when I ran over the tender expressions of friendship which flowed from it, and the account of your health. It brought to my recollection events which passed in our youth both pleasing & painful. I likewise was pleased to observe that you had made so much proficiency in learning and hope that you will persevere, for it is a laudable pursuit and richly compensates us for all our toils

My Father's unfavorable circumstances have deprived me of many advantages, but I have endeavoured to improve my mind to the best of my abilities

Excuse what you find incorrect in my letter and forgive my not answering yours sooner. Have been disappointed in my expectation of coming to Randolph which has deprived me of the pleasure of seeing any of you or going to school which I lament but must submit to providence. It would give me great pleasure to correspond with you for I expect to be in a situation for the future that will admit my writing oftener than formerly and have letters directed directly to me for I shall be living some distance from my Father. As for Ira he seems to have forgotten or neglected me not answering my letter or even sending a single compliment

Give my love to your reverend Father and Brother & my respects to Hannah. When you write to me which I desire to be soon be so accommodating (if in your power) to give me some information respecting my Grandmother. We have not had any letter from her within two years. My health has been very good in general since we parted. I draw to a close by wishing you health and prosperity in this transitory world and happiness in that which is to come

From your affectionate friend
and cordial wellwisher
John D. Bancroft

Mr Cyrus W. Robinson

which you have a mind to shine. Modesty is the only sure test when you angle for fame. The affectation of courage will make even a brave man pass only for a bully: as the affectation of wit will make a man of parts pass for a coxcomb. By this modesty I do not mean timidity or awkward bashfulness. On the contrary be cheerfully firm and steady, knowing your own value, what ever it may be, and act upon that principle; but take great care to let nobody discover that you do know your own value. Whatever real merit you have, other people will discover; and people always magnify their own discoveries, as they lessen those of others.

For Godsake revolve all the things seriously in your ~~mind~~ thoughts before you launch out alone in the world. Recollect the observations which you have your self made upon mankind, compare and connect them with my instructions, and then act systematicly and consequentially from them. Lay you little plan now, which you will hear after extend and improve by your own observations, and by the advice of those who can never mean to mislead you. I am Your faithful and affectionate Friend P. B.

Honored Mother, Sangerfield Sept 1st 1819

If thou art in the land of the living the sincere wish of thy Grandson is for thy health and happiness. The impossibility of ~~my~~ assisting you makes me the more solicitous to hear from you ~~and hence~~ Have not received ~~a letter from~~ an answer to the letter I sent you by the way of Cousin Nathaniel neither received any from him ~~though I have commit~~ Your age and infirmities justly excuse you from writing, should you have received mine, why he has not written to me I cannot ~~tell~~ conceive I hope he has not neglected you ~~for~~ it would give me great pleasure to be in a situation to smooth thy passage to the world of bliss and to administer comfort & ease to the, the gardian of my youth — Different reasons have prevented me from ~~soon~~ writing before — Have had very good health since I wrote

I shall ever remain your obedient son till death J. D. Bancroft

Mr Billy Bancroft

seeming to be above what most men and many fools call prejudices, even tempt you to a vicious excuse, extenuate or laugh at the least trench of morality; but shun upon all occasions, and take all occasions to show a detestation and abhorrence of it. Thus though you may be thought to be strict and censorious, which young men are to be that and wise. But here too spare the persons while you hate the crimes. All this relates, as you easily judge, to the vices of the heart, such as lying, fraud, envy, malice, detraction, &c. and I do not extende it to the little frailties of youth, flowing from rash words, and warm blood. It would ill become you at your age, to declaime against them, and censure a gallantry, an excessive excess of the table, a frolick, an inadvertency; no, keep as free from them yourself as you can; but say nothing against them in others. They certainly mend by time, often by reason; and a man's worldly character is not affected by them, provided it be pure in all other respects. To come now to a point of much less but very great consequence, at your first setting out. Be upon your guard against vanity, the common failing of unexperienced youth: but particularly against that kind of vanity, that puts a man a second

It is not to be immagined by how many ways vanity defeats its own purposes. One decides peremptorily upon every subject, betrays his ignorance on many, and shows a disgusting presumption upon the rest. Another desires to appear successful among the women: he hints at the encouragement he has received from those of the most distinguished rank and beauty, and intimates a particular connexion with some ones: if it is true, it is ungenerous; if false, it is infamous. But in either case, he distroys the reputation he wants to get. Some flatter their vanity by little extraneous objects, which have not the least relation to them selves, such a being descended from, related to or acquainted with people of distinguished merit and eminent characters. They talk perpetually of their grandfather with an on their uncle, and three intimate friends whom possible they are hardly acquainted with. But admitting it all to be as they would have it. What then? Have they the more merit for this accidental certainly not. On the contrary their taking them adventitiously proves their want of intrinsique merit: a rich man never borrows. Take this rule for a certain and a never failing one, that you must never seem to affect the character in

Dear Cousin

I rejoice to see the progress you make in learning may you increase in knowledge, virtue and usefulness, and as you grow in days and years may grow in grace, for you are now forming your character, may you live in the fear of God and remember your Creator in the days of your youth.

your Cousin Nath" Bancroft would have the day are inquiring, you will further note he would write to you he is studying Thick with Doctor Lunt of Hempstead. I want to see you do come if you can. I want to write much more but time is so short I must close. Receive my Letter from your tender hearted Loving Cousin mother

Seth Bancroft

John Y Bancroft

Betty Bancroft - Betty Chase Bancroft, second wife of David Bancroft II

The 1890 date cannot be reconciled with the fact that Dr. J.D.B. died in 1872

Re-examination reveals that his is not 1890 but 1820, J.D.B. was 19yrs old. P.M.B.

15½

Mr John D. Bancroft
Sangerfield Oneida County
New York State

Plainfield March 28th 1820

1360

David Bancroft

Plainfield March 20 1820

PC - 85B

Very Dear Children I once more
determined write to you, that may know that I
yet living, and hope be spared to see it, and for
the many ~~[illegible]~~ conflicts both Spiritual or
Common he bestows on me my health is
but I am able attend public worship most of
time, as we live in the Way which I believe
Great Privilege. I receive a letter from
Lake June 16 1819 which gave me great
Joy and consolation Oh let us Praise God for
his mercy endureth for ever. I wrote a letter
to you and one to Jemima dated June 11
1819 which was my birth day I was then 70
years of age, & directed it to John I hope
little Paul Harkness Lucy & Sally
another from you dated Sept 2 1819 & one from
Bancroft. I thank you both for your attention
so respectful to me, to write me as often as
as to me I expect it is a pretty an present
I purchase with things I do for I will
the rest in Charity: may God reward all my
Benefactors, and forgive my Enemies (if I
have any) but dear Children be not anxious
for me for the Lord Shepherd. I shall not want
God dealings with me are all just and right, in
his hand I commit my self & you, and all
mighty concern. I want to see you & your Children
but the will of the Lord be done. May we live
to pray, pray and expect New Covenant blessings
which the sincere wish of your very affectionate
Mother

Sally Bancroft

Sally Bancroft

I beg your Pardon for me

[illegible] end - when i consider the agre[illegible]
[illegible] your mother that i write a[illegible]
and entreat you as thou your were my
own child i feel guilty that i not better
improved the opportunity i had tuesday
nite [redacted] perhaps a little advice
nite have prevented you from going a little aside
from your duty it is not yet eight months since
you stood by the dying bed of your Dear mother an
not one since you attended the funeral of your
Grandmother i dont much wonder that one obser
to me that should they see you doing they could not
helpd crying though i must acknowledge I have you m
best thanks for your good behaviour since your
mothers death i always thought you to be a go
obedient child but in particular i think you
have wen a great comfort to your Father in
this lonsom hours. but i think your attending the
ball must be a greef to him instant here try
to prove that it is wrong to dance but if you
are not convinced i would recommend you to rea
the Bibble and when you are alone pray that
God who knows all our thoughts and actions and to wh
we have got to give an account to direct you in th
and all their concerns. but i know you will
say it is rite for children to obey their parens
and i beg you to consider that you parents ha
promised to endeavour to restrain you from
such things this from your sincere friend
Melinda Martin to Betsey Marsh

In copying this letter was reversed. Letter begins on other side.

Dear Sister if the Lord has called you [illegible]
the language of your soul is Lord [illegible]
to do this was the language of the apostle [illegible] when
was first converted and now since we h[illegible] much
opportunity of conversing together I hope you will rea[illegible]
these lines with pleasure as a best to you from an elder
brother and one that feels a deep interest in your eternal
welfare and the snares of those who lie in wait to deceive
by teaching for doctrine ~~the commandments of men~~ and who
make void the law God by their tradition and labour to influence
the young convert to believe that the example and commands of
the Lord Jesus Christ are to be set on a level with things
they call immaterial and that sincerity is tantamount
to the word of God. so that if a man sincerely believes
a thing to be rite to him it is right let it be ever
so contrary to the scriptures of truth. this lets open the
floodgates of error and justifies every false principle
hence the fool that believes there is no God and he that
denies the divinity of the Saviour and a third who believes all
these will be saved let their moral principle be what they may
are all right yet will those accommodating and temporizing
teachers and people in offering public prayers to Almighty
God pray that Zions watchmen may all see eye to eye
in all things pertaining to his holy kingdom and that
all the professed people of God may walk in harmony
together which we believe never can be until all
cordially submit to the Lord Jesus Christ who is king in
Zion and do wholly renounce such false principles
as are taught in our land the advocates of which say
if you have religion in your hearts it will not be
asked another day what denomination you was of that is
whether you obeyed the commands of Christ or followed
human inventions I would say with the prophet
Elijah if the Lord be God follow him faithfully obey
his laws and submit to his institutions but some
will say that some of the commands and institutions of
Christ as it respects the subjects and manner of
performance are involved in so much uncertainty it
is difficult if not impossible to know what we ought
to do such a would work to search the scriptures with
prayerful attention and learn from them what
the Lord requires them to do and now I commend you
God and to the word of his grace which is able to make
the wise unto salvation pray for the peace of Jera[illegible]
salem and for thine own soul and for thy Brother J. M.

"Fear not; it is I."

"Εγω ειμι μη φοβεισθε."

1st When on the stormy sea of life
We struggle with the tempests strife
When waves run high & billows roar
That break on Earth's tempestuous shore
When trouble like a gloomy cloud
Hangs o'er our barks by tempests bowed,
O then how sweet to see the form
Of Jesus mid the angry storm
And hear his soothe & cheering cry
"Fear not tired wanderer, 'tis I."

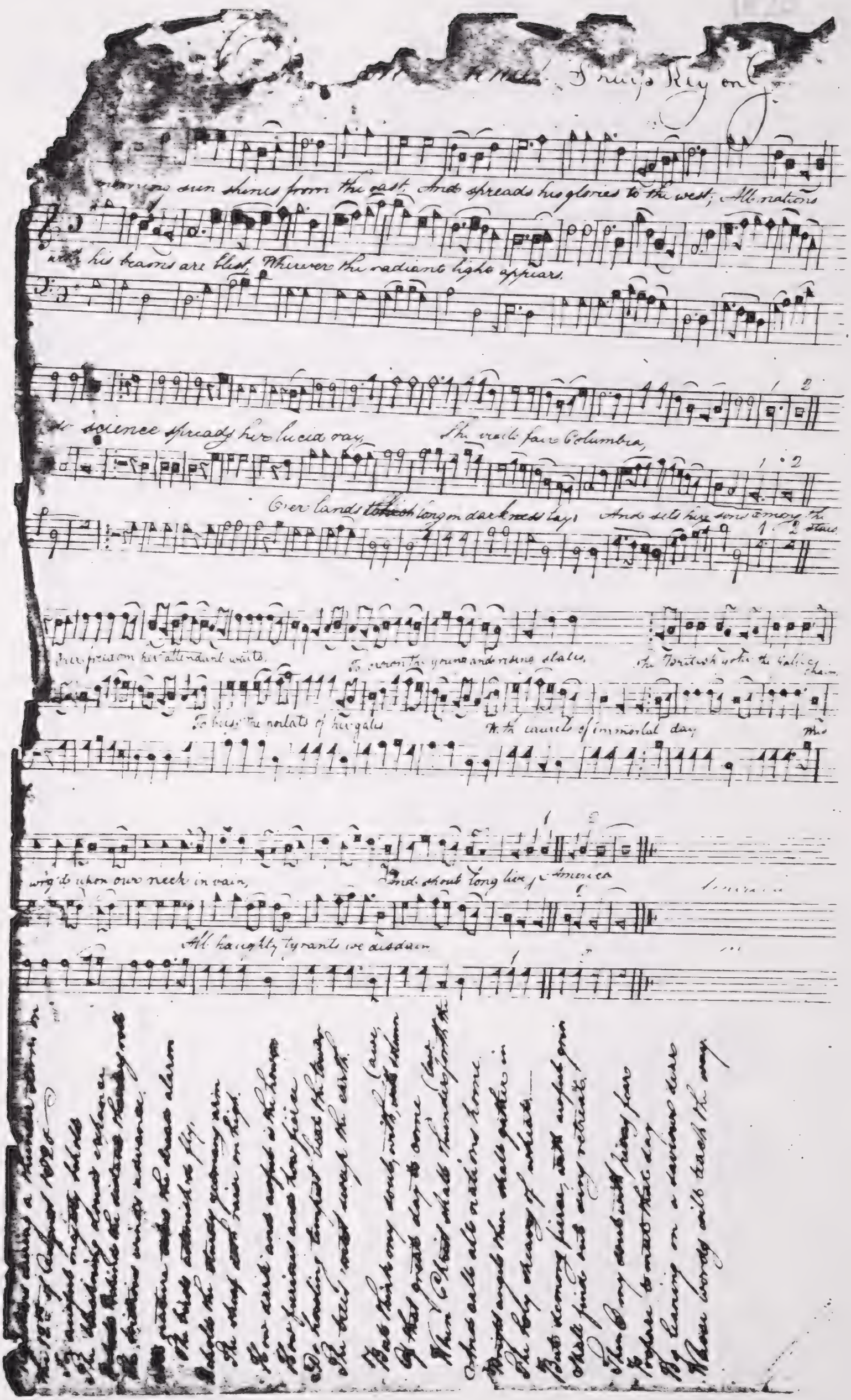
2nd When error bears us from the road
That leads to happiness & God
When momentary passion starts
And gains the entire of our hearts
How deep the sorrow and the pain
The hope of heaven seems again;
Ah! fearful is their fate who stray
From wisdom's strait & narrow way
Yet doubly blest if mid their grief
Redeeming love shall bring relief
And Christ's forgiving accents cry
"Fear not, ye penitent, 'tis I."

3rd O may we hear that heavenly guide
When prone to lean to folly side
And in temptation's darkest hour
Fear not, I'll guard from satan's power;
And when death stealing through our veins
Shall lock our senses in his chains,
Then called to pass the dreadful vale
Then heavenly breezes fill our sail
And Christ our guardian & guide
Support us on that gloomy tide
And cheer us with the welcome cry
"Fear not, Christ conquered, 'tis I."

* 1906 1821

Country Scenes

I've been among the rocks & hills
And listened to the mountain rills
And as from rock to rock they bound
Old forest with the notes resound.
I've been the crowded town within
And heard the multifarious din
Of cabs & cars & ringing wires
That sound through all her thoroughfares
And lost amid the daily strife
In those strong tides of human life
Have turned with loathing & surprise
To country scenes my longing eyes.
Who would not leave the noise & strife
Of cities, for the solitude
Thrown'mid the joys of rural life
Sits health with all her powers endued
A queen whose sceptre is her fan
Her fan is Zephyr's gentle breeze
Her greenly throne the cliff of stone
Her canopy the forest trees.—
I recollect the season well
A brighter morn I never knew
I wandered to a woody dell
While yet the earth was wet with dew
A more romantic spot was never
Trodden by foot of forest deer
And never did a wilder dell
Echo to the shrill Indian yells
The scenery round is rude & wild
Rock upon rock in grandeur piled
While little limpid streamlets drip
Down nature's rudest workmanship.
A modest flower its petals spread
And gazed upon the scenery dread
As prettily as if 'twere seen
In the fair garden of a queen.
I paused this modest flower to view,
Ah! this will teach a lesson too;


Key on
morrow sun shines from the east, And spreads his glories to the west; All nations
with his beams are blest, Wherever the radiant light appears.
science spreads her lucid ray, The veils fair Columbia,
Over lands long in darkness lay, And sets her sons among the stars
Free prison her attendant waits, To crown the young and rising states,
The Turkish with the Gallic chains
To bless the nations of her gales With laurels of immortal day, The
wing to when our neck in vain, And shout long live America
All haughty tyrants we disdain

[illegible]
and hail ——

Vaguish thunders roll on high
The dancing hail, descends
The birds of heaven astonished fly
[illegible] forest bends
The lowering clouds pour forth the rain;
The [illegible] lightnings play
The waters cover the plain,
And clouds, obscure the day.
Nature trembles to behold
This grand amazing sight,
To see the works of God unfold
His majesty and might

Silence! my soul, with wonder admire
His majesty divine,
Who spreads the heavens with liquid fire
And makes his glory shine.

In contemplation view the hour
When Christ our Lorde shall come
Encircled with Almighty power
To speak the nations doom

More awful thunders there shall roll
More vivid lightnings shine
The earth shall shake from pole to pole
And hell its charge resign

The moss grown tombs in thunders cleave
The rocks shall melt with fire
Angels, and men, their doom receive
The world in groans expire. ——

[illegible]

Consonant signs

simple vowel signs

e	as in feel
a	" " fate
ah	" " far
i	" " fit
e	" " fed
a	" " fat
aw	" " fall
uh	" " fur
oo	" " fool
o	" " vote
o	" " fop
u	" " rule
oo	" " foot

diphthong signs

ye 1st	" " fine
oi 1st	" " boy
ow 3d	" " how

Improper diphthongs & triphthongs

wee (bull)	as in we
wa	" " way
wah	" " waff
waw	" " wall
uwh	" " work
wo	" " rooke
woo	" " wooed

stopped

wi	" " wit
we	" " we
wa	" " wag
wah	" " was
wan	" " one
wo	" " wood

Improper diphthongs

wi 1st	as in wind
wow 3d	" " wound
ye	" " ye
ya	" " yea
yah	" " yard
yan	" " yawn
yah	" " yearn
yo	" " yoke
yoo	" " you

stopped

ye	" " yoorge
ya	" " yet
yah	" " yam
yan	" " yon
yah	" " young
yoo	" " not used

The l hooks signs are placed on the upper end of the consonant sign and crook to the right as pl tl dl

R hook signs as tr dr fr vr. the t & n are inverted in these signs

The S is sometimes joined with the L & R-hook signs as spl. sdl.

The sh hook signs are placed at the lower end of the consonant sign upon the side which the R-hook occupies at the beginning, as

This hook (that is the Shn-hook) is placed at the lower end of the consonant signs upon the side which the l-hook occupies at the beginning, & in the curven one it is made larger.

List of word signs.

Accordingly
account
knowledge or ac-knowledge
advantage
after
all, awe
alone
already
an
and
are
as
Be, bee
been, bin
but, bu
can
cannot
come
Do
done, dun
Every
establish
First
for
from
have
general-ly
gentleman-men
gram
God
good
great, grate
have
how
immediately
important-ce
improve-ment
in, inn
is
it
Kingdom
Language
lord
May
me
more

no, know
nor
no
object
objection
occasion
of
on
one
opinion
opportunity
particular
phonography
pleasure
principle-al
public
Remark
remember
represent
Shall

short
should
so, saw, sow
spirit
subject
sure
that
the, thee
their, there
them
thing
think
to, two, too
together
told
toward
truth
up
upon
under
usual

very
was
were, way, weigh
what
which
who
will
with
without
word
would, wood
your, you, yew

Ye who in gay robes love to shine
Ye who live only to be viewed
Who pay your vows at fashions shrine
Think of the flower in solitude,
With sweet content its beauteous face
Smiles on the wild & lonely place
And flings its fragrance to the breeze
For mountain birds & forest bees.

So let us rather seek the dell
Where true tho' homely virtues dwell
Than stand 'mid riot, mirth, & noise
Earth's low & fast-retiring joys.

Forgiveness.

How sweet are the accents of mercy
To those who surrender their hearts
To Christ who hath died to redeem us
Who freely his pardon imparts.

From him may we learn the sweet grace
To forgive when a brother offends,
For us, he hath freely forgiven
Or else we are ~~[illegible]~~ none of his friends.

When words of unkindness inflame us
And heart is arrayed against heart
A spell of the evil one binds us
Till Jesus his love doth impart.

But when a bright beam of the mercy
That saved us when rebels & foes
Reflects its mild rays on our passion
How soon will they sink to repose.

O thou who didst suffer to save us
And bid us repenting to live
When thoughts of unkindness assail us
Then teach us like thee to forgive.

J. R. Smith

Pamphlet ... 1828

Friends to morality and religion,

If you would address myself, therefore be patient and attentive. Shall any one in this enlightened age, especially in this country before so well informed and respectable an assembly,—persons who have had the benefits of a good education, some who profess to have met with a sanctified redeemer and know their sins forgive— I say, shall any one dare rise up & tell us that we are all bigots, deceived punks, and superstitious fools & that all the great and God like divines of this country, deceivers, or deceiving, that all christian Europe, even those ~~[illegible]~~ heroick souls that dare meet death with a smile, embraicing the stake crying out welcome cross of christ; welcome everlasting life, are not so good as we are, and yet or worse, damned for living a vastly better than life! in a word, that all our sires have been fools, or worse than fools, for almost two thousand years, ~~and we not dare rise up to~~ by telling us that Jesus Christ is not God; they tell us this, ah more, they tell us that Christ himself was a liar, for he says ~~that~~ "I and my father are one" and they confess him to be the son of God, if so, he can be no liar, if no liar then God, ~~for~~ "for he thought it no robery to be called equal to God" now it is impossible to be equal to God and not be God— now a duraility of gods is equally as impossible, therefore one in God. If the truth of this truth I believe every rational mind in this assembly, which is not healed by infatuation, is thoroughly convinced— Therefore again I say shall any one rise up in this assembly and tell us this great redemption (to use their own expression) is not God and at the same time non dare open his mouth to confute it, none dare defend the religion he professes to believe that religion which thousands have laid down their inestimable heads to support, that religion in support of which thousands have been burnt at the stake, whilst some have been crucified with their heads downwards and others thrown into boiling chaldrons of oil, rather than renounce it but I will [illegible] this glorious cause, at the same time I am sorry that it has found so few advocates at this time, but do not think that this doctrine which has been advanced, which I consider a abominable heresy, is of new date or a sure foundation, impossible to be confuted— No it was promulgated some hundreds of years ago by one Arius or Arias in the days of the popes of Rome, when heresies were frequent and [illegible] It has since been advocated by one Socinus, but soon confuted and the advocate silenced. it would be impossible for me to follow all its secrets

histories, will be assented that its upholders ~~are~~ for the most part are and have always been men of censurable characters, men who were first excommunicated from other society for immoral conduct — we will look at its principal leaders in this ~~state~~ country, Smith and Baily. Smith, we are informed, is an ambitious man — desirous of becoming popular and a leader of a party. He professed to preach the methodistical doctrin till he had increased his followers which is their general practice at present, Baily was expelled an other society before he joined them — such the doctrin and such its upholders. I shall conclude therefore by expressing my conviction that your good sense will not allow you to be carried away by smooth told stories or affecting tales told by whining women. but will search the scriptures and see whether this things be so. —

This Article of agreement is and between Jno L. Bancroft of the first part and We, the Subscribers of the town of Danube, County of Herkimer of the second part, WITNESSETH that the said party of the first part, doth agree to teach a good and regular common English School, in district No 4 for the term of One quarter to commence on the sixteenth day of Jan. 1822 And said party of the second part, doth agree to pay said party of the first part the ~~sum~~ Dollar, for scholar, per quarter for each scholar sighned for or sent: and Provided the school should not arrive thirty scholars so party of the ~~second~~ first part is to have nine shillings per scholar — with board, washing &c. And further to furnish a comfortable School house and its necessary appendages. — Dated Danube Jan 17. 1822 —

Jno Bancroft

Jno Frey 1

Jacob Fornay 2

Nicholas DeKerman 1

Mr P. Waggoner 2½

William Wagner 2

Frederic Meeter 1

1903

A parody

How majestic how glorious the
When I wander alone in yon grove,
To remember the time when I caught
A smile of forgiveness from God.

There is naught in the violins sound,
Or the follies of life that can move
There's nothing on earth to be found
Like a smile from the God that I love

What is it can cheer the lone hour
When my thoughts on the images rove?
'Tis faith in the God I adore
A hope in the God that I love.

No joy which by wealth are bestowed
Or pleasures that youth may approve
Can equal the rapture that flowed
From the smile from the God that I love

If there ought that gives peace upon earth
'Tis a foretaste of pleasures above —
Received by a soul of such worth,
As to call down the saviour of love!

Hope like an angel smiling
At the pangs of sorrow
Raises the thoughts to the skies
Rejoicing in hope of tomorrow

In the days of our youthful joyous
Each one sports in gladness
To the bright gems of Truth
Shining forth though in sadness

Conceive that time with the glimmering taper
Gives the rough sea of life darkness shades of blue
Through its damps and its vapours
To skies shall at length conduct us
To the regions of bliss shall soon convey us

Sir Editor if you think the above parody worth insertion in your paper it is at your disposal.

I approve of Mr. H.'s rigid contemplation of the Sacred but as I have chosen a higher object for my theme I hope he will excuse me making use of so much of his smile.

E.B.

Smile

Sweet Smile

Conceive the joys of love
Enchanted scene
Beneath the dark veil of sorrow
The rays of bliss are seen
Through tears of doubt and despair
The smile of an angelic mother

Sweet Smile

Sweet Smile on life's
darkest path shed a ray

1820

"Maria tho dead still thou livest,
And speakest in language so loud
It pierceth the heart of the living
And cryeth aloud from the clouds.
"Ye youth's of all ages and sex
Prepare for the summons from ~~God death~~,
And all of you think, that I next
May be call'd to appear before God
Take warning by me ~~all ye~~ sprightly youths
All ye that are healthy and fair
Attend to religion and truth,
And God will adopt you his heir.
Repent of your sins whilst in health
For God will not always delay
Accept of free grace and great wealth
And give not one moment delay.
The Lord hath said give me ~~thy~~ heart
And I will for give thee, thy sins
Repent, from ~~thy~~ evil depart
And happy thou shalt be with him
~~By~~ repenting and turning to God
Your sins ~~they may all be~~ He will ~~kindly~~ surely forgive
If not, he has sworn, in his word,
"Ye never shall ~~enter his kingdom~~ taste of my love."
But down unto death you must go
Where devils and damned do dwell."
O save us! ~~O save us~~ Great God, from those woes,
O save us from death and from hell.
Most merciful God hear our prayer
And watch us from evil and sin
Awake, all who live without fear,
And hear those who cry for their sins.

Peace.

1821

Let the harp and song awake;
Let the notes of honest joy
Cheerily echo o'er the hills,
From the Hudson to St Croix.
For remembrance of the time when we sieged,
For the God of nature's name,
For New England's forests tame,
And of freedom and of fame
Let the fires.
Let the deathless monthly rose
And the laurel ever grow
On the sepulchres of those,
Who two centuries ago,
Braved the perils of the storm and wave.
Till they stood upon the strand
Of a wild and distant land;
Tho' a small and feeble band,
They were brave.
On a country waste and wild
The defenceless strangers gaze
And the faithless savage smile
As his tomahawk he raised,
And upon the gallant few rush's amain,
Then the blood of battle ran
Till of Philip's mighty clan
There remained not a man
To be slain.
Then in wisdom, wealth and might
As the infant nation grew,
It attained an envious height
In the parent country's view
And she made a cruel thrust at its power;
~~That was pointed at its heart~~
But the child threw back the dart,
That was pointed at its heart,
And the mother feels the smart
To this hour.
As we prize the blessings bought
At the price of patriot blood;
As our fathers toiled and fought,
Arose against oppression stood;
As we fondly love the land where they lie,
Let us lift our hands and swear,
Should a tyrant ever dare,
To implant his footsteps there,
He shall ~~die~~

New England Pean

Danube

January 11th

1821

Herkimer County N.Y.

1292

Mr Bancroft its now friday and I have closed my School for this week and having an opportunity to write to you it is with pleasure that I improve it Although I have not any particular news to write I am in good health and have a very good School of about forty scholars and as far as I have become acquainted with the people like them exceedingly well I went to Paris bottom to quarterly meeting a week ago last sabbath where I heard two or three good sermons an saw some fine looking Girls I have been home once and expect to go home again in about three weeks my brother was there last saturday and sunday and we visit each other as often once in three weeks I believe he has got a tolerable good School

We have had a fine shower this afternoon which revives the face of nature the fields look flourishing the fruit trees have blossomed and all nature seems to be crowned with a variety of blessings for which we ought to look to the great Author of all good with gratitude and thankfulness It is a general time of health in this neighbourhood I saw Roda Wilcox this morning and told her that I was a going to write to you she sends her compliments to you I should be extreamly glad to have you come and make me a visit as soon as you can make it convenient and do not fail of writing me a letter by and send it by Elder Wilcox as I expect he will carry this to you

This day is past and gone,
Never more to return.
And my letter I must close,
If you please the mistakes excuse

Yours with the greatest respect

C Bancroft

Paradise May 31st 1822

C Bancroft

C A Cudworth

L Bancroft

N H Hadwin

Rev. and Dear Sir

I have no other essential reason why I have not written to you before, than this - the situation of my mind - It is true I have begun several letters to you but I pray forgive my weakness - I have not sent them. I know the cause of Christ to be nearest your heart - and what affects that, in the view of us mortals affects you - and therefore I address you at this time with some degree of confidence - in hopes that Christ in whom dwelleth all fullness - will see fit to make you to be to me, in a measure what Paul was to Timothy.

I presume you will recollect the conversation which passed between us when I was at your house - I shall attempt to give you something in the exercises of my mind upon that subject - Wishing you to give me your mind freely and keep nothing from - and in your wisdom advise me as you shall think most to the glory of God and the honour and advancement of his cause - and may the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ keep us from doing any thing contrary to his mind and will - for I protest unto you that I rather lose my right hand than bring a reproach on his cause - or my Master's Ministry by attempting to preach when God had not called me -

I shall transcribe the exercises of my mind in general from my memorandums written at the time except, for they were of such a nature that I chose not to give them to writing lest some one should see them - on the night when I thought I experienced the love of God or as it is usually termed a change of heart. I promised my self (or the Lord) thus, "If ever the Lord would pardon my sins and give me a token whereby I might know that I was passed from death unto life, I would serve him and be willing to spend and be spent - for his name sake - at length this came into my mind, "ask and it shall be given unto you" - then I began to ask fervently in prayer - soon this passage struck me "Son give me thy whole heart" and I thought Lord take me I am wholly thine and immediately I began to feel such throbbing and joy at heart as I cannot describe and I thought the Lord had been so good to me that I was willing to give up all to him and do his will in all respects and tell of his goodness to all men and if it was his will that I should preach or any thing I would do it." - the phrase, or any thing - I expressed in that manner on my parents account - for I felt such an impression for the poor nations that I thought I must go and teach them - the Lord Jesus - let they perish for lack of knowledge - I then poor benighted souls were I qualified for that purpose and when that it was the will of my Master I would take my life in my hand and go

Manchester Nov. 19th 1823

Well I have a long story to tell you I went to the canal that afternoon you left Litchfield and put our things aboard the boat and I went on to Utica that night so that I might be there early in the morning to get my dyestuffs & tools and by riding on deck in the evening took cold and became sick the intermitting fever took hold and continued about a week and then the ague and fever clenched me and shook me allmost to death, it came on about one o clock and held me till dark it continued two days and I was determined to have it broke if possible and accordingly I got the man I lived with to fetch two pails full of water and just as the fit came on had it poured on to me at the fit to time and then wraped up in flannel and went to bed and drank a brandy sling with half a nutmeg in it and hot herbaceal tea together with three jugs of boiling hot water one to my feet & one each side of me which made me swet powerfully, I had only four fits more very light & then began to get better & in two weeks began to work and by working a little hard brought it on again for a week and then left me for a while and by worrying to much it came on the third time & shook me every other day for ten days when it left me entirely.

I was not able to do much for eight weeks which made it very bad for me but however I got my workmen four men to work on my mill and got my works in operation about the middle of October and cloth came in pretty fast had twelve pieces in one day have got now the 20th of November 115 pieces have got my works pretty convenient and am dressing of cloth in pretty good styles I have my health now as well as I ever did and enjoy myself better Emira is very healthy and as contented as can be expected. Give my best respects to Dr Ellis and his wife &c

Cadwell Bancroft

Mrs John R. Bancroft

Her number to be left
at the Village of
Littlejarb

Newark N.Y.
Nov 24th

1842

Forward

Rather back again. Mr. Bancroft please to excuse my long neglect I have been very busy both night & day since I have been here I began to write some time ago but I did not finish so I have neglected it so long I am ashamed of it I received your letter of the 18th I read it with pleasure, but I am sorry that I was such a villain as you represent me to be, but it cannot be helpt now, it was a mistake in me I did not find it out until after I left Mr Griffin & I shall lay it to him pretty much, I wish you would call on Mr Hayes for that which he owes me and pay Mr Tracy all that he demands, & tell him that I will see him & tell him how it happened if you cannot get it call on Mr Robinson (please to excuse it now as you can) now I am going to tell you a little about it I started on saturday to come was four days coming had a very pleasant journey I found Aaron sick with the ague & fever I went to work next day scoreing timber but O! how lame my back was. O! how sore my hands were but now work & I agree very well. Aaron did not get his works ready until about a month after I got here his being sick put him back very much but since we began we have had as much clear as we could expect Aaron & Emira are well at present & appear to be perfectly contented & happy we live in a very pleasant place have a fine prospect of the Canal & Basin.

For my part I think it is a very fine Country here & big fortunes, but one thing is bad, the sun will rise in the south! how I wish you could have had some of the peaches that have fatted the hogs here I have fatted considerable upon them myself I never was more healthy in my life my victuals drink & sleep are all ~~sweet~~ sweet I have engaged a school here for one quarter in this District to commence on the 2nd Monday of Dec. at 12 doll. a month & then I expect to come down to collect my bill & if you do not keep the school I should be glad to take it for five or six months. if you think I could have it write me a letter as soon as you can convenient I want to know how you get along & the rest of our friends also please to give my love to all enquiring friends

There has been a young man along preaching in this place about two miles from here who began preaching when about 15 years of age he is now eighteen he is called a great preacher and it appears that he has been the instument of God in this place of bringing a number to the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus there seems to be considerable stir among the people I hope it may be the means of doing much good here the young man has now gone on to Buffalo so he goes from place to place doing good May God give him grace & confidence to speak & the people hearts to hear & understand the word & may it do them good as it does the upright in heart may the blessing of God attend us all

It is now twelve o'clock & my fire is gone out & I must close

From your affectionate friend

Mrs John D. Bancroft well wisher Hadwell

Manchester Nov 20th 1828

Manchester Oct. 24th 1824

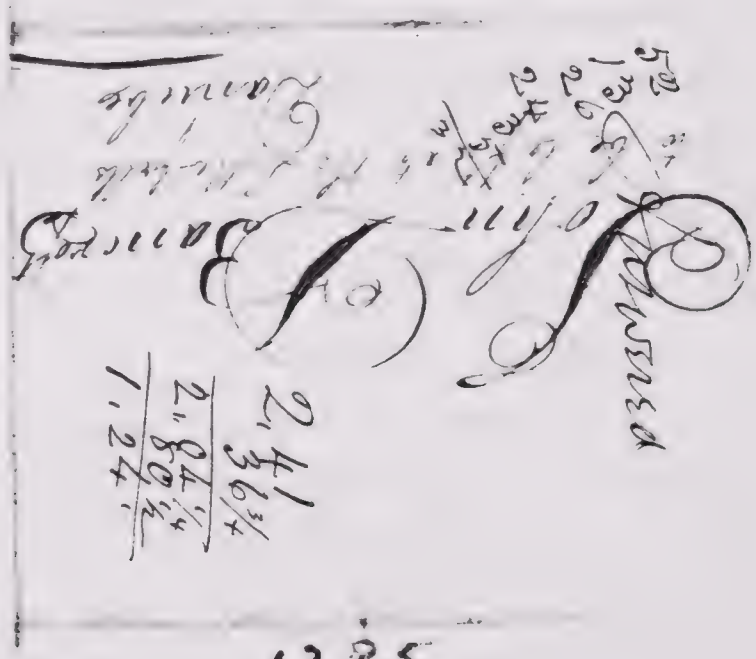
Dear Mrs

According to your request I sit down at this time to converse with you for a moment as I hardly know what to write but I am very glad to see your out here now I am a little considerable & find that there is a number of school teachers wanted in this place I have had a number of calls since I mind of my [illegible] there is a [illegible] in the [illegible] January we have [illegible] dear pieces [illegible] we had last year at [illegible] there is a probability of your getting at least [illegible] dollars per year a month for six or [illegible] more than [illegible] of your [illegible] you cannot [illegible] whether you will or if you [illegible] I have not [illegible] was [illegible] Aaron was going down [illegible] was taken sick with [illegible]

And another thing I think you were to do well come out & [illegible] rich old maids [illegible] in their hearts you take me out of pity. I have not had a visit at his house this some time I was [illegible] all matters are [illegible] give my respect to all inquiring friends & particularly [illegible] your [illegible] mistakes & if you do not come out will soon it is almost dark so I am in a great hurry so good by

J. Somerset

H. Cadwell



Hartford Sept 19th 1823

My dear Laura I have not been able to send you the articles we were talking of the other morning in consequence of company which we have had, neither now have I furnished a pattern for the Soft I send, but presume your judgment to be better than mine in this respect I shall leave it for you to procure one I should like light work and a little of it, excuse me in haste —

Yours sincerely Deborah Lawrence

Miss Laura Brown

134

Olympia Birdsall

Centreville

Dear Parents New Orleans July 7th 1824

It is now sometime since I wrote you, but have been so much engaged that I have had no time to spare, but I shall endeavour to be more attentive in future, I have some small hopes of hearing from you in the course of the Summer, but as the busy season now comes on with you I cannot complain if you are not very punctual - but if the Weather is as hot there as here I think you would find enough to do to keep cool without writing letters or anything else - but for all the extreme heat the City still continues healthy as usual for the season, tho I am fearful should this extreme heat continue much longer we shall have hard times by & by - but I have got business so arranged that I can leave at a time in case sickness should commence, so you need not feel alarmed in case the City should be unhealthy - You have never wrote me as yet whether you get the Paper from here or not. if you receive it you will be able to tell how things are going on here & what is stated in that paper in regard to the

health of the City may be depended upon. as he never wishes to keep it secret from any One if there is any sickness in Town —

I talk some of Coming home early next Spring to stay three Or Four weeks but whether I can Or not I Cant tell as yet but I think I shall be able to do so — that is if Mr Stark does well On his Cotton in Providence & New York — & I think his prospects are very good for making Considerable —

I hope Lydia has not given up Writing to me On Acct of my Crazy Letter if that is what ails her I will promise to write her a long serious One — full of grave remarks &c Or any way she may want it — Nancy Stark. I have never heard from her Since her letter last Winter. tho, in answer to it I requested her to Write me again as soon as she received Mine — Benoni & Sally & Rebecca — I have given up all idea of hearing from — as they are afraid of Writing too well (in case they should write me a letter now & then) — But I do not

really apprehend much danger of their Writing too well - I think you had Ought to make them do it -

PC-113b

Give my best respects to all friends - & Tell Nathaniel Cowlam that I may perhaps Come there next Winter & eat some "Greens" (as Daniel did) with him ~~[illegible]~~

Yours

Henry Lance

12 5d

Remarks from
Dover N.Y.
10 Aug. 1844

Mr. Henry Pearce
Pawlings
Dutchess County
New York

Ship
Concordia

To Mr
John Birdsall
Huntsville

1224

Louisville July 2d 1824 1854

Dear parents I now devote a few leisure moments to the guardians of my infancy. I would first inform them that I am well and contented as far as contentment can be expected here below I am situated with a truly amiable family where every thing goes on in harmony. As for my business it light I have little to except feedin his pigs and catching his horse what little acquaintance I have with the people they very well except one great fault which generally prevails that is profaneness. I have had to drive team a little perhaps half a day and I expect I shall a little more, give the within to Henry pray answer it soon I must conclude by subscribing myself your loving son until death shuts the scene

John Birdsall

Mary Birdsall

John Birdsall

Salsbury April 25th 1825

Very Dear Aunt

It with pleasure I have had the perusal of your letter sent to Mother and Henry dated at Co. 15th last. God in his mercy, previous to the arrival of your letter here, saw fit, to remove my dear Mother, your loving Sister, to that blessed place where the truly penitent shall find rest. Saith Holy writ, "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord, yea, saith the spirit, for they rest from their labours, and their works do follow them" It is a hope that we can have for our departed friends who have good evidence of their faithfulness, as I think she did, that our loss is their gain. And I think that I can say of her as the Apostle did "that those light afflictions (that she endured) evidently worked out for her a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

Although after she obtained her reason

many dark and dismal days appeared. yet it could be observed that she loved that Jesus which she had professed to. She appeared to have a great sense of her wicked heart, and would often observe that it appeared that such a wicked creature as she was, could never enjoy happiness. But the last four days which she spent at my house of her life she appeared to be resigned to the will of her maker. She observed previous to her sickness that she should be glad to hear from you before she died, which she appeared to be sensible of, soon after she obtained her reason,

I have heard that Henry has written to you and probable has told you more than I could write. But having a few leisure hours I employ them in writing to a dear Aunt, Who, Although far distant, and long seperated, yet not forgotten by her affectionate Niece

Mrs. Mary Birdsall

Chloe M. Case

Dear Cousins, I am thus, infinitely obliged
injoying tolerable health, and all friends are well. PC
118
A gentleman has just arrived who lives about
twenty miles from here close by uncle Simeon's
who informed us they are well. You have heard
probably that I have altered my situation in
life I was married the tenth day of Aug. 1823
to Mr. Luther Case formily a resident of New
England, I wish you to write to me direct your
letters to him in Salsbury, Meigs County O St.
to be left at Chester Post office, as soon as
you receive this. You also likely have heard
that Thebe is entered the Connubial state,
She is married to Mr. Moses Russell formly
from Virginia. They have two children one
a girl, Harriet, the eldest. the youngest
a boy, no certain name yet. I have no partic-
ular news to write at present. I am living on
the bank of the pleasant Ohio whos gentle
waters are wafting downward daily boats,
and rafts, and steam boats three or four
often in a day there is rising of twenty plying
from Pittsburgh to the falls up and down.
I have written my paper over and must close except
this scrawl from your real friend
Chloe M. Case

Note, If know not but what Lorenzo is married and have directed to you as you were formerly, Love to all friends

Mrs. Susan, Tacy, and Lorenzo formly Birdsall

1255

Mr. John Burdsall,

Huntsville

Otsego County

Chester Free P.O. N.Y.

April 30, 1823

Pay 26

Sept 4th Westfield

Dear Aunt it is with much pleasure that I now sit down to improve a few moments as they pass away to inform you that we are all well at present & hope that these few lines may find you enjoying the same blessing although we are seperated from each other yet we can converse together through the medium of a letter Horace has took a tour to the west as far as michigan this spring and summer he is on his way back he is in Bradford Montgomery County about 291 miles from home he came to Chetaqua to see Nathan found him well found him at a place of excavation where a man had killed his wife he said he was insane and did not know what he did he was hung at two O'clock broke the rope came to the ground as soon as he recovered he was hung The second time he said it was a solemn sight he walked at chitti see uncle Elijah John found them all well Anson talks of coming down this fall Aunt Deborah thinks she shall visit otsego once more if she has her health uncle Elijah is quite home the boys in mon grown Lydia's health is good sister and Deborah mille a great many enquiries sent their love to enquiring friends I think of bending the Tailoress trade this winter have sought diligently for to find a place to no success and should be very glad if you could get a place for me in a respectable shop I should be very much pleased to have you write a line if you can get a place for me write as soon as possible if you get me one write send the letter in the mail give my love to enquiring friends uncle J. hoping you get this

I Mary Birdsall

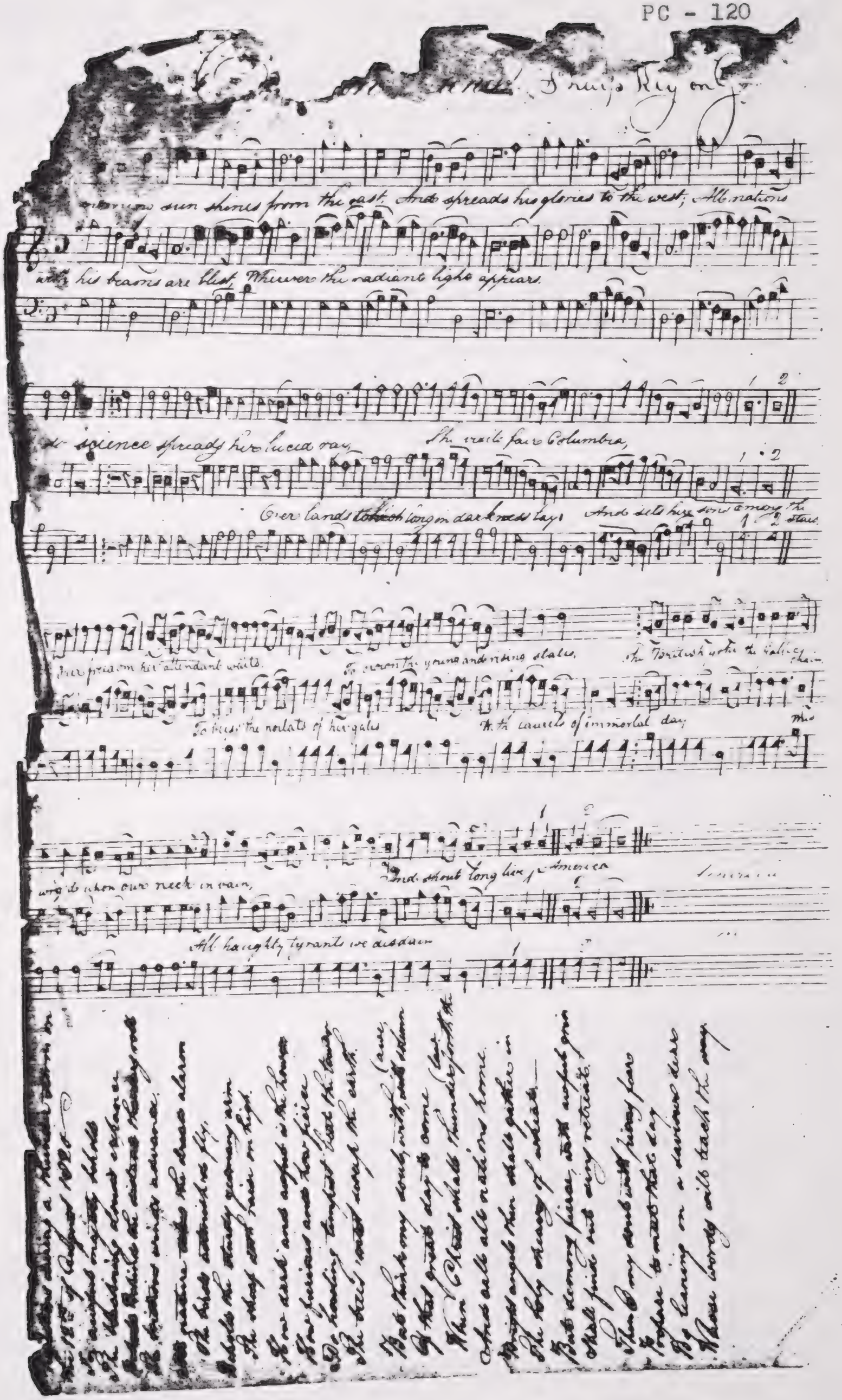
Mary Birdsall

you must notify all mistakes for I am in a great
hurry I calculate to send this by Mrs Mathews
come and ~~visit~~ visit us every opportunity tell
Aunt Chloe we was all much pleased
with her visit don't respose this need from
and burn it Chloe Mt Sister Mt Beside

1259.

Mrs
Mary Birdsall
Huntsville
Mt Ny

Sept 4


Francis Key on
sun shines from the east, And spreads his glories to the west; All nations
his beams are blest, Wherever the radiant light appears.
science spreads her lucid ray, Shine fair Columbia,
Over lands long in darkness lay, And sets her sons among the stars.
her prison her attendant waits. To crown the young and rising states,
To bless the nations of her gales With canons of immortal day,
wing to when our neck in vain, And about long live America
All haughty tyrants we disdain

[illegible]

and hail ——

Lightning [illegible] the sky
Thunders roll on high
The standing hail, descends
The birds of heaven astonished fly
[illegible] forest bends
The lowering clouds pour forth the rain;
The [illegible] lightnings play
The waters cover the plain,
And clouds, obscure the day.
Nature trembles to behold
This grand amazing sight,
To see the works of God unfold
His majesty and might

Silence! my soul, with wonder admire
This majesty divine,
Who spreads the heavens with liquid fire
And makes his glory shine.

In contemplation view the hour
When Christ our Lord shall come
Encircled with Almighty power
To speak the nations doom

More awful thunders there shall roll
More vivid lightnings shine
The earth shall shake from pole to pole
And hell its charge resign

The moss grown tombs in thunders cleave
The rocks shall melt with fire
Angels, and men, their doom receive
The world in groans expire. ——

[illegible]

This arms may press the
Other friends cheer the
[illegible]
But when friends are dearest
[illegible]
[illegible]

March the 1st 1826

PC-121

Dear Brother and Sister after presenting you with our best compliments I would inform you that we are all through the goodnes of providence well and hope these Lines will find you engoying the same Blessing I want to see you more than tonng can express but i dont know that we ever shal see eachother in this world but i hope that we may met on canaans happy shore where parting will bee nomore i thought last fall that we should meet wonce more But our expectations has got out of in som measure but if we have our helth we mean to cep triing to com Back but our health has ben verry Poor this winter thay has ben a good many deths but we have ben spared as if if it want for the sikness i expect that we should be better to stay whare we are than we should bee there for we have got a good peas of land and it is pade for but if we can sell we mean to com back somtimes i feel verry anxious to comback but the distance is far

I want you should write if you think
thay would be any chance for us if we
should live to com back i often converse
with you in my sleep but when i awake
my comfort is all gon i wish that we might
bee so happy as to meet wonce more i have
know muse to write only that our connection
at present is well ~~at present~~ i have not
heard any thing from Margarit only what
i have heard from thane if you hear from
her - i want you should write to mee and
let mee no whare theis i want you should
remember my love to Stephan and tell him
i want he should write to mee i want
you to remember my love to John Bird sa
and to mary in perticular and to all the
family and to all in Quiven frends
Sonomone i re main your loving Sister
untill deth

Simeon Sifson David W Houghton
Susan Sifson Cloey Houghton

I must tel you what misfortune happened
to Benjamin lehad his hous burnt soon
after John gardnier'er it heair and
pritty nirtch allmost had the oldist boy
got birnt verry bad and before he got
well Benjamin cut his foot and it
has lade him upall winter if you
See Nathan i want you Should tel
him to write to mee for i think he
has for got mee and tell Eligan Millson
the Same i know the distance is far
but i Should bee glad to hear from
them and you must write in per
tic ular aboute Betsey horning i
wantto hear from hir Emiline
is a going to School She is about as large
as i am Elisha says he can cut rail cuts
as fast as his father can Split them
Sarah and Nathan P and William my
thay all re mani ber thayr love to youn
Eldrer

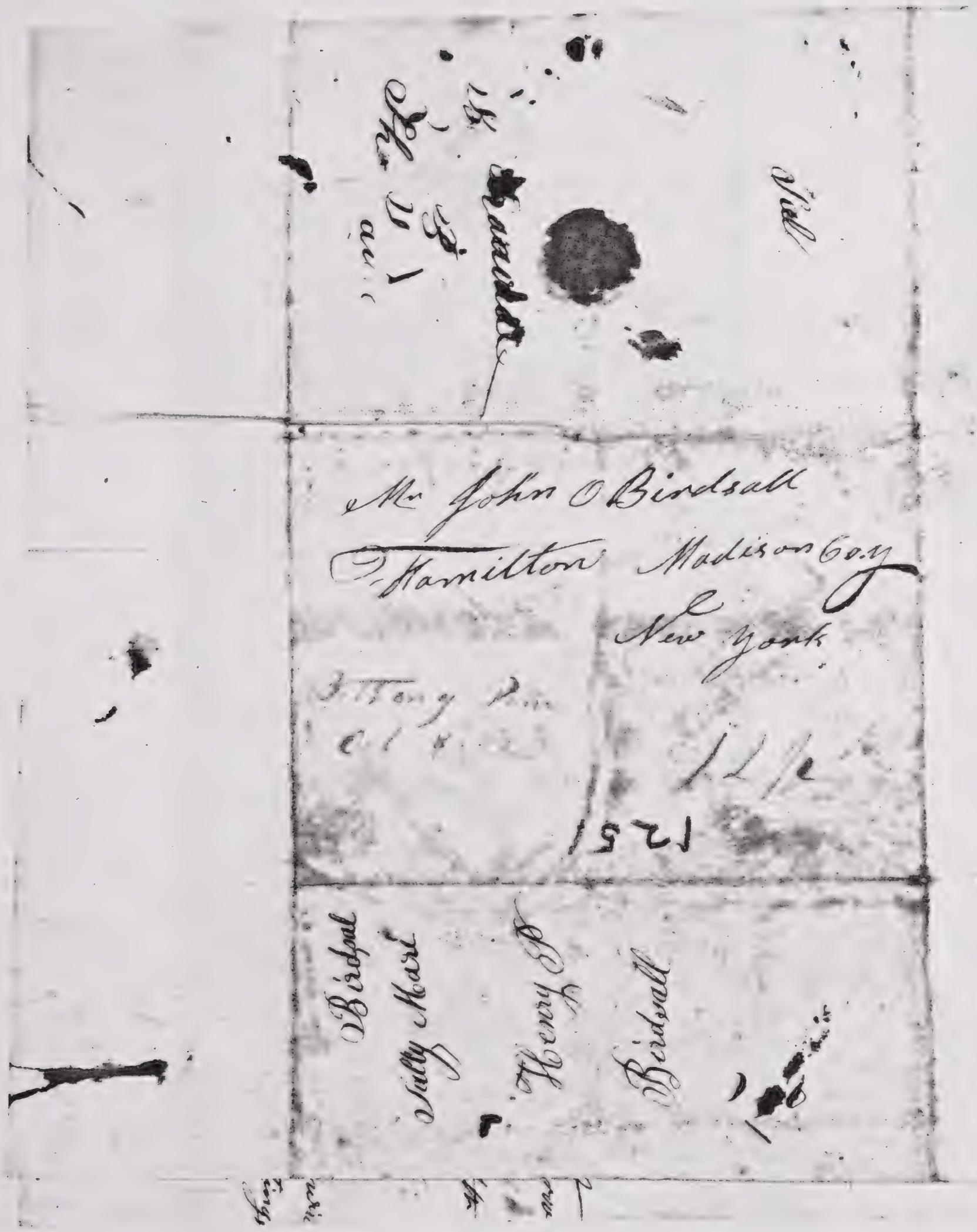
town of Springfield County fo
Galia State of Ohio i want you to write
as soon as you git this

:1233

to

David W Houghton

Sidney &c



O Dear Brother in the Lord

I Recd your letter of the 24 sept and rejoyce to hear that you and the friends in Huntsville and Sidney are all well you write that you are in Hamilton I hope you may be prospered in your undertaking and yet be a blessing to the Zion of God their is great want of labourers in the vinyard the harvest truly is great and the labourers are few in this part of the Country where I am their is but very few preachers of the Gospel and the people have been so long without the administration of the word and ordinances that they seem to be very indifferent with regard to it in some places and in others they seem very hungary I have thought of the wise mans observation in the prov to the hungary soul every bitter thing is sweet I visited a destitute Church last sabbath as it was the fifth I went to Palmira about 24 miles from where I live and tryed to Preach three times their seemed to be much attention to the word some much affected likewise where I reside there is very good attention to our meetings people seem to listen with attention to the word Preached and we are in hopes that sinners will soon throng the temple gates

You Requested me to inquire for a school in this Country I have made inquiry but have not as yet been able to find any vacancy if I can I shall write to you imediatly — my self and family are all well —

I would have filled out a sheet could I have commanded time and taken a little more pains in writing it but I have to go ten miles this afternoon to attend a meeting and to morrow to Canaan which is twenty six miles from here

Remember my love to Brethren Allen and Fletcher if they are at Hamilton yet

Yours in the Bond of christian affection

Horace Jones

John C Burdsall

Huntsville Dec. 15th 1847.

To Mrs. Betsey Beach

With a belief that it is ever gra-
tifying to an affectionate and pi-
ous person to hear from relative
in a distant land I now address
my self to you hoping with
this apology you will pardon the
intrusion of a stranger.

Melancholy indeed is the informa-
tion I have to communicate but
as our Heavenly Father has given
us assurances of an existance
beyond the grave where the desiple
of Jesus will all be united never
to part to part it is becoming
not to sorrow as those who have
no hope. On Friday the 30th
of Nov your sister Hannah

Raymond departed this life after being confined about three weeks. During the first part of her illness she was deprived of her reason but a day or two before she died her reason seemed to return and though unable to say but little she gave some evidence that she was ready and willing to leave this world for a better and we fondly hope that what is loss to her friends is gain to her. This seems to be an admonition to us who are living that we be also ready and as we know not the time of our departure that we watch and be sober that we so number our days that we apply our hearts unto

wisdom and that we spend the
residue of life in such a way that
that we can give up our accounts
with joy and not with grief
Your mother is in good health
at present and all your friends
in these parts except Cynthia her
health has been poor for a numb
of months but we hope she is
mending at present. The Lord
has favoured the people in this
place with a very glorious
display of Divine Grace in bringi
souls from darkness to light and
Cynthia is among the number o
hopeful converts. She has unite
with the baptist church in this
place. Please to write to your broth
er in Carolina soon
Betsy Beach Yours respectfully
Wm H Birdsall

1257

Mr John Birdsall

Huntsville Otsego

New York

25

Salisbury (Ulster Co) 8

1st February 1837

Office

Huntsville

1274

Doct Jno. D. Bancroft
Minden
Mr McFate

Doct Ellis'

Affidavit

Panics Hollow Hck Co
Feb 3rd 1828 ——

Dear Sir. Your Father staid with us Tuesday night last & would have come & visited you if Sleighing had continued he took with him his thing that you left here — I have told your Father of my writing to Kingsbury & he thinks if there is encouragement you had better go — since that I have recd a letter from Boonville & he writes he has conversed with the inhabitants of the place & they as well as himself think it would be advantageous to settle there the distances are some greater from Physicians than the Old Lady told us — I likewise send you a letter from your room mate Potter it was through mistake given to Heliker as a letter to him & he broke the Seal but did not read much but I read the remainder ——

Whether it will be best for you to
go to Boonville before your school
is out you will best know —
Doct Bowen is at Bennets Corner
& one of his Class at Cedar Ville
another at Frankfort Village

Our family all well

Respectfully Yours
Benjamin C Ellis

Doct Bancroft

8671-

Paines Hollow N.Y.
July 10 –

Free
B.G. Ellis P.M.

Answered

Doct. John D. Bancroft
Stokes P.O.
Oneida Co N.Y.

Plains Hollows Herk. Co
July 10. 1828

Dear Sir. Your letter of 11th May to 28th June inclusive was rec'd 4th Inst. It found us in good health & spirits Mrs Ellis whose health is poor. Your letter was very acceptable, although I had almost despaired of receiving any from You. As the very abrupt manner in which You left was indicative of a little sourness.. You mention Miss Belknap as your first Obstetric Case & afterwards as being attacked with Inflammation of the lungs. I have several times heard from You indirectly, & as I have rec'd the news I should judge that Miss Belknaps case proved fatal. Mrs Gillet was formerly an intimate acquaintance of mine, present my respects to her and family - Mr Swift had not time to get to Boonville in season to attend the sale of the land You mentioned as he had no more than 12 hours notice, he mentioned that You & a Blacksmith in Your neighborhood intended to buy it. Your business is good & Your prospects flattering if Your charges are moderate. Mr L. Swift's family are well & he is making money faster this Summer than he ever has before. his riding mail strengthens his back so that he can perform more labor in the same time than he used to do. he performs his mail one day. & he has four men boarders while they are chopping down 3 acres of timber & burning the same into Coals. I last week rec'd a letter from Sanborn he is now well but been sick. Expects to take a degree next fall wishes to be remembered to You. L. Swift says he has expected a letter from Kingsbury concerning this Station land - Mahala Prall married to Philip Freap. Hannah Smith out of health all the spring John Wager has the fever & ague periodically - Sebastian very sick 3 weeks past with Enteritis -

We have had a large Camp Meeting held between Jedediah & Wm Foyes. it Ended Monday Morning. I attended it with Charlotte & Martha on the sabbath. Wm B. Wood arrived here 1st June from Richmond out of health which is now improving & he expects to return 1st Aug. Martha teaches school on Shoemaker hill. Mr Wood is in Utica. It is Concluded that Charlotte shall not go to Cincinnati this Year & that in the spring the whole family will go. they come to this Conclusion in Consequence of very Urgent entreaties of their Son & Daughter there.. They are a fine family & I hate to have them move away but they think they have no abiding place here. Bethiah went to Connecticut 10 days ago Daniel has been sick half the time since last fall Mother is failing — my business has been much better thought May & June than it usually has been at this season of the Year — Doct Hepen is married to Peter Foggs Drapers Daughter & dissolved partnership with Doct Crain.. I write to day to Rochester for an Anti Masonic Almanack!.... Robinsons Distiller talks of buying out J. Gilmits & Erecting a Distillery at Utica — he is to marry Robinsons Eldest Daughter. I saw Lumi Wife Yesterday She shows good Keeping. Amos Reed has bought the John Jones farm & store at $2000 ..... If you have leisure I should like to have you devote a little time frequently in writing to me & use an every day familiarity in stating your business, future prospects, & order likewise when you intend to come down, what you think about marrying, whether you have purchased any land or are going to do so when you find a man that will pay me $1000. for my House & Ride send him on. Mrs Ellis Charles, Fanny Sarah Ann & Alby all send Love. Respectfully Yours B. G. Ellis —

D. Bancroft —

Doct John Williams has been down to Utica and there is a better Vacancy in Newville for a Physician than in any part of the Western Country he has written

I learnt in New Ville that Doct Williams was to start next week for Black Lake & Canada for the purpose of going into business there

Utica 25th Sept. 1828

Dear Sir your interesting letter of the 18 Inst. to Mr. & M. Burbe has been received. I am gratified to hear that you take so deep an interest in the Baptist Register. The are given in the paper every week. It is not thought expedient to vary from our general rule as to its price. However, if persons subscribing should let the time run over six months a few days, I presume $2 would be taken. You state that you would not like to become responsible for the subscribers you might obtain. This is not expected, unless you procure six subscribers with reference to having a seventh copy gratis; in this case you would responsible for six. I think it of great importance that our denomination should be well informed in relation to the great benevolent operations of the day and of the increase of the Redeemer's Kingdom. The christian man, with such a paper as the Register in his hand, stands above an eminence, & survey the whole religious world.
With regard to the Tracts which you mentioned, on the subject of Baptism; I have to say to you, that there are none at the depository in this village at this time, but expect that there will be some in a few days. Praying that the God may prosper you, in all attempts to advance his cause, I subscribe myself yours, in evangelick bonds.

Jno. C. Harrison Pres.
Editor of the B. Register

Jno. Bancroft.

1284

Pst. U. S. Harrison
Answered

Dr. John D. Bancroft (Post Master
Oneida
Oneida Co.
N. York

Dear Sir

Hanover Oct 18th 1828

I sit down in great perturbation of mind to answer your favour of the 10th Inst. (the cause of this disturbance in the equilibrium of my intellectual faculties I shall explain to you in a subsequent epistle) I can say by you as you did by me that I have not forgotten you the scenes which we have passed together have something so peculiar in them as must ever be forgotten by me and the recollection of them will always associate your name with Libby you say you know why I have not written to you — I have not received a letter from you last Winter and answered it and have been waiting in expectation of hearing from you again you have not acknowledged the receipt of it perhaps you have not received an answer to yours of last Winter — that's not my fault Then you relinquish Dear Sir all suspicion that I am indifferent whether I hear from you or let you know where it stands with me — I assure that you have done nothing which has alienated my friendship towards you for it is not the least before has argument — Then we lost a few persons that it would rejoice me more to hear that you — I am glad to hear of your prosperity I have expected to see you some at the close of the term I have no place in view to locate myself — No [illegible] in view decline of money are scarce in debt. Not enjoying very good health — Class consists of about 100 members Profession the same thing next last fall —

Have a letter from Mr Ellis a few days since certifying that he and family were in tolerable health and that he had plenty of business he writes that you are doing considerable business he says there is no mistake about it for he has heard from an authentic source — I am yours affectionately

Benj. F. Fontaine

Dear John A. Campbell

Free

Dr. John D. Bancroft P.M.
Cromlbaf ~~Cobh~~ ~~Cork~~ Ireland

Dr. J. Pettibone
Frost

HANDSTAMP
OCT 20

1823

Jan. wants to know name of the Dr. Frost
mentioned in Franklin's letters —
Franklin has been written to
Thomas Frost Esq. Queen's Square
Cullompton Devon

To all to whom these presents shall come, or may in anywise concern.—

The president and members of the Medical
ie of the County of Herkimer and State
New York, send greeting —
Whereas John D. Bancroft, hath
bitted unto us satisfactory testimony that he
h studied Physic and Surgery for the term and
the manner directed by law, and hath also upon
mination to our trustees given sufficient proof of
proficiency in the Healing Art and of his moral
racter. Wherefore by virtue of the powers vested in us by law
do grant unto the said John D. Bancroft the privilege
practicing Physic and Surgery in this State, together
t all the rights and immunities which usually
volain to Physicians and Surgeons. In witness whereof,
have granted this Diploma, sealed with our seal
d testified by our President and Secretary at Fairfield
is 14 day of January in the year of our Lord 1828.

Westel Willoughby M. D. President

A. Johnson M. D. Secretary

Dear L,

I judge that you will wish to hear from me by my own feelings, my heart feels sad - a heavy sigh is sent forth - amd why? - Is the body out of health? - Is a friand or relarive dead? Have friends deceived or offended? No! Hast thou distrusted the mercies of God? No! My hope is in God alone - Do'st thy sigh after riches & honors and fame? No! Man was made a social being - If there was something in his enjoyment whilst here in the garden, so that God saw fit to make for him a companion, the last best gift to man, to fill up the measure of his bliss, to beguile his time, who could talk with God face to face. How much more when this fallen - his passions all vitiated -- the creature of nature, estranged so that they flee from Him - the face of the earth disfigured by thorns and thistles - the few roses scattered in Life's path -,surrounded by thorns, or the cup containing the bee which will sting the lip which presses it - I say how much more does man, in this forlorn state need the smiling bosom friend to cheer him - The joy of his heart to partake of his pleasures, the light of his eyes to brighten the dark shades of his path --As man consist of three parts, Soul - body and spirit - so, although in the sprit I long to be with Christ - still whilst in the body - the soul - which is the sensitive part will have it's desires and long for gratifications - therefore if kept within due bounds it is not wrong for me to urgently desire to press thee to my bosom - to enjoy the sweet communion souls- still in the fear of God.

O L - How happy should I be were you with me this this night - my wedded wife for I am alone - Brother K and family have gone to Utica - Although I have read my bible - knelt down and tried to pray - still there is a void - which dear Laura alone could fill - excuse me madam if my feeling prompts me too far in my expression - We had a pleasant journey home - stayed with my father the evening after we left Huntsville. The next day by bed time we arrived home - found our friends all well - sister Burdick provoked almost - I don't know but quite to crying because the Elder was so fatigued he could not tell her more that night -

(This was found in the copy book of Dr. J.D.B. and is of course a rough first draft of a love letter to Laura Birdsall. One could make a case for burning all love letters for the author is "afflicted". Shakespeare put it,- This is the very ecstasy of love;
Whose violent property fordoes itself,
And leads the will to desperate undertakings,
As oft as any passion under heaven
That does afflict our nature.
He had recovered from the loss of Maria, his first love and was now vulnerable. Doctor in an isolated community he needed some one to hold "to his bosom". Elizabeth smiles. She remembers such a fool. P.M.B.

Paines Hollow
Dec 21 Fee B S Ellis

Dect John D. Bancroft
Cronthal
Ontario Co

1270

Fairfield Decr 18th 1828

Dear Sir

I have just recd Your letter. much pleased with the perusal as it is something rare for me to receive letters Your's are the only ones I received since I came to College, and from the Reputation of Your writing Soon on receiving one answer I flatter myself You will not delay in answering my letter —

Professor Mainwaring Closed his Lectures last Friday after giving us a very good Course. or as the Class Sure to Say the best he has given his Subjects were very good. and the Demonstrations were fine —

Pro Beck Commenced last Monday gave us a good Introductory. the Subject was Small Pox. he traced the history of the disease from the time of Job. and finally Concluded by Saying that the "Devil" was the first Doct who innoculated and Job. the first patient. with Excited much laughter. even old Pro Jim. who always looks as sober as a Sunday Priest had to laugh. Pro. Delamater Commenced the Same day. No Introductory Irritation first Subject. gave us a few tedious lectures on this and now is blazing away the Inflamation of which You must now how fast he gets along but notwithstanding his lectures are good. so are Pro. Bates — Jurisprudence is diverting the old Pro tells some fine Stories. to wit About the Pope & Monkey and so on

Your Kindest Girl Miss Hannah. (as I will have to guess once more) I have not seen or heard any thing from her lately anything this she had her fortune told a little while since. and as You may be anxious to know something about it I will give You the important part. She was to be married by and bye and have ten Children I should think it were well for her to get a Doct as it would be saving something. I intend spending another Season at this place but how soon I do not know as I talk of going to Canada. with Doct Hunter who is attending Lectures and says he has an extensive side and will do well by me if I will go with him. Ah! You wont go You say. then I have not made up my mind. but if I can get Fathers consent I shall go. my Chum is James Dufendorf he sends his best respects being all he has to send C Dufendorf is here so is Clinger & many More

James Dufendorf is going to New Burrin to attend the Next Course. I rather is. Sam and I have had from home. Folks all well. Your Eliza Chamberlain is going to School at Hills. and Mary Ann I Falls with her Young Lady. I Doct Murphy with Young Douglas. I Doct Hosack soon I shall intend Home patient and fill up the Duet so that I won't have room for my name. Yours truly Sam Burnett

Dear Burnett

N.B. Our friend P. H. Wallcraft was unfortunate enough to have his house burnt down and together with the greater part of his furniture. Gods Great I have not heard the particulars attending this sad catastrophy I am sorry that I said so much about Miss C in my last but you must attribute that to my ignorance. being you spoke about the handsome and wanted to know had Dort Murphy told me about her I concluded she was the one.
I therefore ask your pardon H. N.
my Chum is a bad one and asleep and I must stop or I shant get written him before 12 —
write soon as letters will close in 4 weeks from Saturday and I shall be in Ville after that for a short time. Dort M. isn't doing much very healthy in his nick
Our Circulars will be out soon & I will forward you one soon as convenient —

1286

Charles Ware
Esq
Care of Hawes & Co
July 18th
Central P.O.
Bermuda

Paines Hollow
Dec 21 Fee B & Ellis P. Bancroft

Dect John D. Bancroft late of
Cromwell
Middlesex Co

1220

PC 146

Paines Hollow Dec 19, 1828

Dear Sir, Your letter has just come to hand & it gives me great pleasure to learn that you are honest enough to see that the institution of Masonry is corrupt and dangerous. I think now that you are proper. I am an Anti mason from a pure principle, and from the knowledge I have obtained of the institution derived from those very persons who have been zealous promoters of the cause of masonry I am astonished when I meet with those men who still pretend that it is a religious institution and of divine origin but such is the melancholy fact, that we have such men among us. I but a short time since a mason told me "that it was the only Christian Church that God Almighty ever established upon earth & that he would warrant any man safe to heaven that would join the Lodge & obey its laws"! The Anti Masons are gaining through this state & union & it is my earnest desire that they may continue to gain until they are able to crush the monster to the earth never more to rise —

I earnestly entreat you to set yourself against their wicked abominations. Come out from among them & be ye separate, be not afraid openly to give your voice against them. You will be better respected for it by all honest men

Make questions to obtain information, read anti masonic newspapers & if you have not read Elder Stearns on Speculative Freemasonry by all means get it. & all other anti masonic works you can have access too ——

Our family are well as are the neighbors Mr Smith has the contract for carrying the mail 4 years from Jan next he underbids Mr Swift. I have as much business as is usual at this season of the year. day before yesterday attended 3 obstetric cases, to wit Claudian Partridges wife Lyman H Williams & John Brunson the last was Doct Murphys patient was sent for in haste attending Mrs Williams & could not go & sent him for Dr Holmes. but I was soon relieved & pushed over as fast as I could to Vanhornes Hollow where I found Dr Murphy had been in attendance 2 days I found such a disproportion between the pelvis & head of the child that it was impossible to deliver it. I however attempted it with my forceps without success. I then perforated the skull & extracted it with the hook ——

D. S. Ellis ——

for ah coffeyville take there is nothing than Quicken Transpeaking for cribb Sulphur & mild tonics

no matter what you give for the attack I want you to come down as soon as you can —

Dear Sir

Enfield March 6th 1829

It is now almost 5 weeks since I rec.d your epistle of the 10th of Dec.r and have not answered it before now for which I shall make no apology except that I have been very much engaged in business for Doct. Haugh in the time of my profession having transpired at Hallowell after I wrote to you until I left worthy of particular notice only that 24th of my class were examined for degrees of M.D. 7 of whom rec.d their degrees at the time & the remainder were recommended to the board of trustees as successful candidates for degrees of M.D. at the next College Commencement among the latter I was included by reason of disappointment of money to pay my graduating fee which is only $25

I hope I shall not want money next commencement
This was the cause of my disturbance of mind at the
time broke to you last — Enough to frustrate any
persons mind — after I went into a school in this
town on the 22d of Dec at the rate of fourteen dol-
-lars per month and stayed until the 4th Sept.
I am now at my studies preparing a second
Inaugural Thesis — Subject Uterine Hemorhage
Subject of my first Primary dyspepsia which I shall
deposit with the Faculty it is uncertain
first I think it will be the one I am now writing
If I should last — As soon as travelling becom-
-mes good I expect to go in search after an
place to commence business in — I fancy not we had
course I shall state — What encouragement

Canada May 1st 1829

Mr J C Bancroft Sir with pleasure I now take the opportunity of acknowledgeing the receipt of your letter of Jan 31st — as to Mining your answer was satisfactory — as to Religion I remain as careless as ever — as to a loan-scrape you mentioned about I wish you to give an opposition — I think it would not be very lucrative business to set up trucking in your part of the country for buf is to low Promises are not worth transportation — — Now for my self I have been afflicted with that nasty complaint called Ague & fever. I had 5 fits & then broke them I now am on the gaining hand though you will discover my hand trembles considerable yet. now for the neighborhood concerns. Miss Margret Spoon was Married to Mr Peter Dingman about 3 weeks since Miss Ann Fairigue was Married last Tuesday to Mr Piker of Herkimer. Miss Hannah Smith was Married last winter to Mr Vanwalkenburg of Herkimer. Bang — — — — three of the Shaut girls have died within a short time — John & Henry Shaut was Married last week & not any of the Families spoilt — — Mr Peter Flagg has purchased the tavern stand south of the creek. Mr Robinson & Sam Kenyon has bought the Hitchcoc place Store, Tavern & all — Newton is in an uproar & has been sinse last fall. all the neighbours by the ears — Caroline has got a fine boy, but they do not know what to call it. some say John, some Henry others say Raymond & some say Isaac — a hard case indeed, but Population alone can save our country — I shall take a bis bitters & then resume my pen

If you knew how much we wanted to see you, you would come & make us a visit — little Sally says she wants Dr Bancroft to come & fetch her some licorice & she says if you dont come & marry her she will have somebody else. the whole generation sends their compliments to you — Ezekiel is on unto but & expect him down every day — Miss Amanda Parrot is teaching our school here this summer they say John Smith is courting her — — I think that the Ship Masonry got in so much Balast that it caused the sinking of the vessel never to rise again. good — as to Deming he has gone so far as not to meet with them only on two occasions — Holmes & wife are Antis — I was glad to hear that you remained a firm Republican stick to it, it is a good cause

I wish you to send me the name of that wife of yours up there I one heard but I have forgotten her name ... — ... —

N B I think our Zare never takes wife, for the two following reasons. 1st first because those I want I cant get. 2d those I can get all sick would not have

This from your friend & well wisher Isaiah Wilcox
Mr J Bancroft

Please write as soon as convenient

do you think I should meet with in Georgia if I
I should take a journey that way? Will you
be so good as to express your candid opinion on
the subject in due season. I have no raiser
this do I expect to have one very soon — I
a fine gray old Mare saddle bridle and
but no money and for all these I owe
In your last I was enclosed a one dollar bill &
a dancett for which I felt very glad
last a two dollar bill a few days before
I feel very sorry that lot is not cast in a gainly
land — I can have my best wishes for your future happiness
usefulness prosperity and happiness — O! John you &
cannot imagine how I want to see you — If I could
get hold of your Land I guess you would think it was
under Jonath.s printing press — Write to me often
I am affectionately yours —

Doct. J D Bancroft

Benj F. Parkman

Enfield Ct
Mont 12 —

Dr. John S Dencraft

Growth of Prince Co —

Transcribed July 1929
from
Prof. Stevenson

11

1270

Memorandum, of cases whilst at Boonville —

1829 - PC 144 - 1829

J.D.B. was "a frugal man and wasted not a thing"!! Here J.D.B. used the mariners log as a copy book. Yankee thrift impelled these people old account books as diaries, copy books and scrap books

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions
	March 16		Widow Belknap		Had been afflicted with an intermittent fever the summer past, and partially cured — a relapse which had followed her the whole winter, and deranged the whole system — all the secretions were deranged —
10			Patient Husband		A violent intermittent which had deranged all the system —
12					Great pain, in the head — in both sides — a cough which caused great pain — pain in the small of the back and hips — skin dry and hustry —
2					with a yellow tinge of it & the eye, foul tongue — yellowish — pulse hard small, and quick — some dropsical symptoms, starting from sleep in a fright — starting
4					of the limbs or sudden jerking — cramps — anasarcous swelling and filling of the extremities, urine small in quantity and high coloured, bowels rather slow
6					Catamenia not show for more than six month —
					Treatment —
8					Small bleeding which gave great relief of the pain — emet — & cath — antim — tart — blistering &c which removed
10					the internal — but improper care — brought on the ague again used evacuants &c with tinct of dig. till removed agues
12					then used calom to remove congestion of the liver &c till produce salivation

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions
2					Which I follow with sulp — &c — & mild tonics till — her appetite &c became tolerable good & she — went to the neighbours
4					by to much exertion brought on a relapse —
April 6	18.				Called again — Pain in the head — in each side — over the
8					region of the liver — Anasarcous swelling — Yesterday had an ague fit — and in fact all the symptoms much as they were when I first
10					saw her — except the tongue not so foul — blood had a buffy appearance
12	19				Pretty comfortable — till 3 o'c — Began to feel the sympt of ague — gave an emet to stop the fit did not succeed — The tinct lepid
2					all to no purpose — p. deranged — till 8 o'c when attacked with hyster cramps — Globus hysterica — which nothing would stop till sweating was
4					produced by steeming with hemlock — and warm tea of Moth. wort —
6	20				This morning, pain in the head & right side — with bowels bloated — some
8	30				Found the patient what she called well — though some pain in & soreness in the right side — Had some suspicion of the blood
10					Became so much better as to ride out had my fears dissipated —
22					

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions monday 9 February 1795
2					I went on shore this morning in
4					Order to get the Sugars along
6					side but found poor Encourage
8					for this Days work were perty
10					much like this Day waiting for
12					Sugars which we were to take
2					on freight ~~agree~~ Agreed
4					With two men as Saylors
6					to go with us To New York
8					at Sixteen Dollars Pr
10					Month
12					Tuesday 10 Very Little Don Toward
					getting in freight

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

H	K	HK	Courses	Winds	Transactions Wednesday 11th Febru
2					got in 17 Hhds Sugar & two barrels
4					one Hh & 1 Bag Coffee for mr.
6					Blakely three Tierces Clay
8					Sugars for myself & son hides
10					for General Arnold
12					Thursday 12th February 1795 —
2					Very little prospect of much mo
4					freight
6					Friday 13th
8	This closes the journal of John Dimarest. He was soon after taken				
10	sick and died at Sea — He was my Mothers first Husband —				
12	& pos bear his name —				John D. Bancroft

Course	Dist.	Diff. Lat.	Depart.	Lat. by D.R.	Mer. Dist.	Diff. Long.	Long. in

To Miss Laura Birdsall

Huntsville

I'm old appendix has in reality
been brought to this humble situation
only the night previous to my arrival
in F... the circumstances were as
follows - Mr Butler had obligated himself
to have it removed by Thursday —
it was not done - on Friday Night
the students almost unanimously commenced
vociferation and in his train an
inner lurched it with the Cart ——

I am engaged in my old occupation
in Trenton Village - and mend much
for the month at the rate of Fifteen
Cents pr week and my board — my health
is good - pr the exception of my lying which
are in another an unpleasant sensation
Dr Hollenghay pronounces it an affection
of the Celtic Nerve and recommends
the constant use of Counter irritation - I am
totally incapacitated for Reading at present
My mind Gable is now in drooping despond
to be fastly declining into a Phrensy .....
I wish you to write soon as it will save
me the trouble of writing you again
Direct yours to Trenton P.O.

E. C. H. Potter

John D Bancroft Esq

(P.S.) I thank you for your Journal in your last

PC - 148

D. L.

Croulbof July 23d. 1829 —

O How happy your letter which has just come to hand, was made me, although mixed with sorrow at the account of your ill health, never before did I feel such joy at the reception of a letter, or feel a like sympathy at hearing of the ill health of any one — I have waited with much anxiety & opened every mail, lately, with a throbbing heart, ~~began~~ ~~to~~ my anxious imagination began to conjure up a thousand reasons for not receiving a line from you — at length it came from the north, when I did not expect to receive it "a winged messenger of love" I began to suppose you sick, and ~~began~~ to propose in my mind to see you shortly if this side the grave — I do feel to give unfeigned thanks to the giver of all good for his tender mercies over us, that you in your bodily afflictions, had the shining smiles of his divine spirit, that your health ~~hath~~ is in part restored, that he has been graciously pleased to grant me good health — The tender affections of your kind heart & all the many unmerited blessings that he is continually bestowing upon me — I have just lately returned from a visit to my friends in Herkimer Co. where I studied, & where my creditors resided paid them some between not be mi- the rest they in a friendly manner agreed to wait for — have had a good business since my return & been successful — My dear — I wish you would gratify me in your next by omitting such expressions as these ("unconnected manner" — "little satisfaction" &c) — as to the manners & matters of yours I am well pleased & ~~will then~~ feel "great satisfaction" — in the perusal ~~& [illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ that ~~the~~ little blind fellow has blinded yours ~~in~~ part to the imperfection of mine —

As to a superiority in spiritual knowledge I feel my lack forcibly — & want you Laura near me on that account, very much to help be on in the spiritual life — "you pray" and may the glory of God, & each others good always be the motive which shall prompt us to action — O L — how hard a thing it is to know ones own heart and to have "the Glory of God" uppermost in in all we do — so much self —

I have lately been reading Mason's Self Knowledge — & fear I shall never attain a very competent degree of it — ~~seeing~~ ~~wish~~ to make myself & those around me happy But my Dear if we have ~~has~~ such a degree of it as to feel our own unworthiness & dependence if it is but in part — joined with a sincere affection for each other — we may be a mutual help to each other — & with the blessing of our kind heavenly parent may be as happy as we can have any reason to expect —

28th Business called me from finishing my letter to you — & I have had no suitable opportunity — ~~but~~ resume it till now — the family are all abed ~~but [illegible]~~ but now returned from my business, but as the mail goes out to morrow I embrace this opportunity to close it — by assuring you of my health which perhaps never has been better — & of my affections for you, which I need not tell you are as ardent as ever, — Elder B. and wife send their love to you & those whom you feel free to render them to as your mother &c —

Lebanon Sept 1st 1829

Dear Sir I again sit down to inform you how it fares with me I rec'd a very kind letter from you a few weeks ago but have not been able to answer it until now - The 1st of June I started to go into Vermont in search of a place to locate ~~to~~ I travelled about 300 miles and found none which I thought to be very eligible I returned to Enfield the 20th of June and staid there a week and commenced a journey through the eastern and middle parts of this State and the eastern part of Massachusetts - found no resting place and consequently returned to Enfield in 4 weeks from the time I started I staid there 5 or 6 days and then came to Lebanon where I now am lying upon my oars anxiously waiting for an opportunity to pull upon them You will therefore oblige me very much if you will let me know as soon as possible if you hear of a chance for me to do so - Please to let me know how school keeping is in your vicinity as I shall try teaching school this winter if I do not find a place to peddle pills in I would answer your letter more portiently if I had time - Very healthy in this region Weather cool and dry - Thermometer stands at the degree of health

I am in haste and in tolerable health your obedt. Servant

Doct J. D. Bancroft

B. J. Sanborn

Dr. Benjamin Sanborn
P.M.B.

Dr. Chas. D. Bancroft
Bronthal, Oneida Co
N.Y.

Dr. Chas. D. Bancroft
Bronthal, Oneida Co
N.Y.

1289

Whitefield Nov. 24th 1829

Dear Sir } I employ this short respite from my professional labours in writing you the following — I came to this town the first day of Oct. — I like the country and people very well the town in which I live is situated in the South-ern part of Coos County in N.H. — I have tolerable share of business — charge $1.15 — I should like a better place — Had several capital cases to treat the history and treatment of which I shall give you in some of my subsequent epistles to you. If you have any interesting cases pleasant to transmit them history and treatment to me — If you know of any good opening for a physician let me know the particulars for I should like a different place from the one I am now in — you may wonder at this but it is true the reasons I shall hereafter let you know — I cannot write more now but entreate to write again soon — Please to answer this as soon as you receive it —

Accept Dear Sir my best wishes for your spiritual and temporal prosperity —

I am in tolerable health and in the utmost haste yours affectionately

Doct I D Bancroft

B F Sanborn

1271

Architectural draft
from
26

Gilman
Superintendent
Jan 1st 1888

Wm D. Bancroft L.H.D. P.M.
Cronthe
Onondaga Co
N.Y.

Cheshire O
Aug 1st 1830

2 5

Mr John D. Bancroft
Huntsville Otsego Co
N.Y.

Cheshire July 28th 1830

Dear Sir

Agreeable to your request I avail myself of the opertunity to inform you of the reception of your letter which gave us great Satisfaction to hear of the Safe arival of our father & also of the good heath of the rest of our friends in your vicinity — The bad health of my family has prevented me from writing as Soon as I intended, Phebe is verry Sick at this time, the rest of your friends is well, ~~you wish~~

Respecting the chance for a Physician I will give you the Situation of a few Townships that lies joining that is destitute of a Docter and let you judge Cheshire is situate on the Ohio, Runor in course is Sickly Morgan Co. of Cheshire

lies in the Pine Hills & of carse is
tolerable healthy Huntington W.
of Morgan & Wilks N. of Huntington
Raccoon South of Huntington thes three
last is very Sickly occasioned by
Stagnant water. these Townships will
abridge about 100 families each then
reckon 5 to a familie will make a
population of 2,500 Dr. Musson the
year before he died Booked $5.00
in Raccoon Township, Gallipolis
has but one Dr. but I would not
advise one to go there for I have known
3 Drs. to die out of one House in
the course of 3 or 4 years in that place

M. Russell

J. D. Bancroft

N.B. Pleas to tell George I recd.
his letter this morning I will write to him before long

1871

Paid

Mr John Q Bancroft

Central Oneida

N.Y.

Nunnville May 8th

Certificate from
Medical Society.

I hereby certify that Doctor John S Bancroft is a member of the Medical Society of the County of Onondaga May 11th 1830

S. S. Peck: Secy —

Dr. John D. Bancroft having exhibited to me a Diploma in due form, authorizing him to practice Physic & Surgery in this state - is hereby admitted a member of the Medical Society of the County of Broome

T Robinson President

November 1 - 1831

Medical Soc.
From
J. Robinson

Colesville June 14th 1835 —

Dear Mother, I cannot let the present favourable opportunity pass without sending you a few lines, knowing how acceptable the like favours have ever been to the best of mothers I have abundant cause ~~of~~ gratitude for the measure of health I have enjoyed since I saw you, though it has not been very good; yet I have been able to attend to my domestic concerns so as not to be obliged to have any hired help as yet. I expect to have a girl this week to commence my spinning and assist otherwise when necessary. I have anxiously expected a visit from you and some other of my friends this spring, but the season has passed away, and I have been disappointed, but will strive to be reconciled hoping that I shall still be permitted to enjoy the privilege of again beholding you. O that I could ever feel duly grateful for the mercies and blessings I daily receive from the hand

of a kind Heavenly Father, and never murmur at any of his righteous dealings, but O this cold heart of mine, how few returns of love does my Creator receive therefrom! — Should kind providence be pleased to continue my unprofitable life after the first of July we wish to have you come down and spend some time with us; not less than a week) and please send word by the bearer Eld. Holmes whether you can have an opportunity to come, if not we will send for you — in the mean time, give yourself as little uneasiness as possible, and rest assured that I have every attention, which the kindest of companions can bestow; but cease not to remember me at the throne of grace, to which may we all continue to look for strength and support in every time of need — with love to all my dear relatives and friends, in haste, I subscribe myself your affectionate daughter

Laura Bancroft

Mrs. Mary Birdsall. —

P.S. When sister Almira was here I did not expect to write before I sent for you, but fearing it would be difficult for you to leave home without some previous notice induces me to change my mind, you can therefore tell her she may leave what she spoke of with you.--

to. D.

1223

Mrs. Mary Birdsall

Otego

N. Y.

Cressville Oct 14th 1835

Dear Parents I take pleasure to embrace the present opportunity, to inform you of our welfare as we are all through the good providence of God enjoying a good degree of health. I have just returned from brother Kelly's where I have been visiting ~~this~~ with (a sister, a nephew and his wife) of sister Kelly's this afternoon and finding they were to pass you tomorrow on their way home I requested them to be the bearers of this and the enclosed from brother O. which we received last sunday — On Saturday we received a letter from Sangerfield Father's health has not been quite as good as usual the year past. — We had a pleasant ride home after leaving your house, arrived in good season found all well, no one had called for the Doct. in our absence but now he is quite full of business principally in Harpersville. Mr. Vosburg is quite sick ~~taken~~ called on the Doct. last tuesday — he left home this morning to visit him and has not yet returned, probably has some other call. do not know as I have any thing more of importance to communicate except that I have worse my cloth 36¾ yds. and sent it to the clothiers — As to spiritual things I have nothing which will be interesting to write. A moral gloom seems to pervade the atmosphere, iniquity abounds and the love of many waxes cold I have for a few days past been led to contrast the present season with nine years ago and O how changed the scene! but amidst all our changes and wanderings, we can call to mind that our God is unchangeable his dealings are still merciful towards us O may it lead us to daily repentance — that you may enjoy much of a saviours presence here in time and a happy entrance into Eternity is the prayer of your unworthy daughter —

Laura

John & Mary Birdsall. —

John Birdsall
Otego
Otsego Co

Favoured by Mr. S. Safford

The Doctor's trip to the "Old Northwest".

1st May 1837 -
2d Perrysburgh
3 Napolion
Defiance
4 Crago
4 Denmark 25 mi. fr Defiance
Very Hot

8 Retiured from Denmark to Defiance
9 By getting out of my followed up Flat rock and lost my self and lay out all nt in the woods alone
10 Came out soon after Sunrise

From the diary of Dr. J.D.Bancroft. He was thirty six years of age, was living on the Pike farm in northern Broome County and had an excellent rural practice. Because he was living on a farm he could now accept farm produce, farm labor, farm implements and farm animals in barter for his services. Women sewed for the family and the shoe maker made their shoes. He was prosperous by local standards but realized that he could never acquire wealth from his practice and farm operations. He was a frequent visitor in the fine home of his wealthy and prestigous grandfather, Judge Hendrick Oothoudt during his first fifteen years. He knew the Judge acquired his wealth from speculation in lands in Western New York. On this solo-trip to Ohio and on up into Wisconsin and Michigan the doctor bought 100 acres of prime timberland, which he promptly sold to very good advantage. He now had the wealth to move into Harpursville, buy a large home, a small office building and a 100 acre farm. He now enjoyed the prestige of a wealthy village doctor a decided social and professional advance from his former status as a successful rural "farmer-doctor". P.M.B.

Dear Parents Harpersville May 6th 1838

I take this opportunity to inform you of our welfare judging from my own feelings that you will be glad to hear. We are in usual health and have had recent information from brother Oscar we received a letter dated 5th of April stating that Almira had been confined to her bed about five weeks but did not mention her complaint — yesterday we received a paper on which was written "A boy again! well" — from which we infer that they are now in comfortable circumstances — It appears to me that I never felt more anxious to see my dear parents and other family connexions than at present but see no prospect of it at present — The doctor has plenty of business most of the time — is gone now — We have had two men the week past laying new pump logs so that we have water handy once more, which I consider a great privilege —

I hope my dear friends will all remember that it affords us great satisfaction to see them and not fail improving every opportunity to come It is meeting time and I must close remember me to all enquiring friends I remain as ever your affectionate daughter

Laura —

John and Mary Birdsall —

John W Birdsall

Otego —

1321

Greenville Co. 20th 1854

1790

Dear Sister

It is a sad task I inform you that we are all much grieved. Our dear little Sister Victory who is very ill. how slender is the thread of life! a few days ago she was as healthy and gay as any of us but now to all human appearance she is near the grave

We have not employed any doctor, because we are afraid they would surely kill her

We have forbidden sending for you several times but father says you are engaged in your school and would not like to come

But I know you would like to come home if you knew the circumstances, and how ill she is We do not feel as we could want with us but our heavenly father knows what is best My heart is full and I can write about nothing else at present but I trust I remain yours by all you are doing

Your

Mary A. Martin

L. S. Martin

Miss Mary A. Curtis

1831

Monday Jan 18th 1839

Dear Sister—!

I am well; very well, as it regards health; but feel very incompetent for the task of guiding the youthful mind aright. I was right pleased, with your letter and send the following in answer. "Do tell dear then think of me." I need not tell you they are original, you will know that.

I think of thee, when joy and gladness
Fill my heart with rapturous fire;
I think of thee, when grief and sadness
Calls me forth to walk alone.

I think of thee, when in one bower,
Pelting on the chilly snow,
Praying—from temptations power,
God will save you whole below.

I think of thee, when my mind rambles,
Up the dangerous path we tread,
Fearing lest its thorns and brambles,
Should injure thy spotless head.

Yours—
Mary Ann Martin

J. W. Martin

P.S. I should be glad to see you over this way. Farewell for tonight
J. W. Martin

Miss Mary Ann Martin

1837

Louisville

Ky.

My dearest Isabel

1852

[illegible] in the infinite goodness of God [illegible] take my pen to address a few lines to my dear [illegible] who are in most miserable health. I should not have so long delayed answering your kind letter, had I not been hoping from day to day to be able to write, and I think I have yet to believe you will think, [illegible] dear Isabel I am often in my concerning you [illegible] pertain to our everlasting salvation [illegible] remembrance of our friendship and the many pleasant hours we have spent together. I exercise [illegible] when thus separated from those we love, [illegible] murmur, I think if I have any sincere desires it is to be submissive to the will of my heavenly father. If I [illegible] the deceitfulness of my own heart, how little do I know of my vile ingratitude to God. You are crowns my life with innumerable mercies, and to commit me cold-hearted and disputing in the cause of Christ, I am sensible it would be just in God to cut me off as a cumberer of the ground. But O the forbearance the long suffering of an indulgent Father. I am yet the spared monument of his mercy, and for other reasons, it is not to declare forth the praises of him who did to redeem man from his deplorable state of sin and wretchedness.

Sometimes I feel anxious to enjoy my health, that I might attend meeting and enjoy the society of Christian friends, but if it is not for me, I desire to be submissive to the will of God, that I may be humbled under the mighty hand of God, and that I may be exercised in due time. I am now under the painful necessity of laying aside my pen, in consequence of a violent pain in my head and side. —

Tuesday 23rd. Dear — Perhaps you will think by my first date I have little day this day, and commence [illegible] but lest I shall not be able to write much, shall continue this journal a little further. [illegible] I have been quite sick, for two or three days was not able to [illegible] much of mind, [illegible] employment, it is more injurious to my head and [illegible] employment. But I do not feel to murmur but rather to praise [illegible] and marvel in sparing such a rebel as I am, until the present moment. I am not in praying ground and intercedeing terms with Jesus, as [illegible] others are, [illegible] to the wretchedness, lived [illegible] to God, is what he is, in one of himself, and for what he has done for all men. [illegible] are a backsliding [illegible] with God, and I feel myself a unfaithful, who has never duly appreciated the sufferings of Christ, and the love wherewith He hath loved us, O, [illegible] my soul, and [illegible] have mercy and [illegible] left upon me the light of thy reconciled countenance, shed abroad thy

love in my cold heart enable me by thy grace to keep all thy holy commandments and give me faith to believe all thy word, and to be willing to resign myself wholly into thy hands, for thou art able to do better for me, than I can ask or think. O that I might send the joys of earth away, and that I might draw nigh to God, or if we do he will draw nigh to us, Lord cleanse and purify my heart and enable me to humble myself in the sight that thou mayest lift me up —

Dear E. how I long to spend some time with you, when will that pleasure, privilege be granted, perhaps never, O painful thought — How often have we joined our hands & trust in friendship, but now that sweet enjoyment is cut in twain — Most probably our meetings on earth, will be but few, if we are ever allowed that pleasure then, how necessary is it, for us to endeavour to secure an interest in heaven where we shall part no more, there to sing redeeming grace and dying love through a never ending eternity — I have many dark and melancholy hours — how much I need the kind instruction of friends to comfort and strengthen me in some of my almost desponding moments — But God has promised never to leave nor forsake those who come unto him in sincerity. He is a friend ever ready to comfort those who are cast down — At times I have such a sense of my sin and the vile affections of my heart, that I think it is in vain for me to hope for pardon, but O how unwarranted is this. When we consider the worth of the Saviour and what he has done, for unworthy sinners not deserving the least of all Gods mercies, how can we doubt but that this precious Saviour can and will atone for all our guilt, if we sincerely repent

Dear E. I am happy to hear that you are pleasantly situated I do think I shall ever sincerely rejoice in your prosperity in this life and if I could but have health, think I should often trouble you with a few lines. I do not mean trouble, for if I should judge of your heart by my own I should say you would be willing to put up with such a burden — Perhaps it may be pleasing for me to come and see you, but do not think it will be painful, hope I shall have the happiness to see you in College this fall — It is unnecessary for me to write you anything respecting this place. I presume you hear from here often — Should like fill this sheet but am confident it would not be interesting — am much fatigued My dear sister, do not forget your early friend — O! remember me at the throne of grace — May God our Saviour crown us with his everlasting love and may we meet at his right hand, to part no more — Adieu — I am

your unaltered friend

Deborah Lawrence

Mrs Lawrence Bancroft

1831?=1212

PC-189b

My best respects to [illegible]
for me. I want to see [illegible]
Harriet, Mary Ann, and [illegible] send a great deal of
love to their dear Lucy and a great many kisses to
the little [illegible]
yourself and [illegible] but I hope I have
not mentioned, who dear [illegible] not so much concerned
in writing for me to answer [illegible]
as [illegible] the heart of your friend
and if it is in my power I shall esteem it a pleasure to
answer at [illegible] hours with sincere affection [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] I have forgotten her
she sends love to you and kisses
to the Dear — — — —

acting.

1212

(O) Fell & Lawrence Mr.
Huntsville N.Y.

Mrs Lana Bancroft
Colesville
Broome Co.
N.Y.

Please
Express

#1914

Petersburg May 31st 1841

Dear Bro. & Sister

I am admonished by the lapse of another season that I owe another token of affectionate remembrance to my distant friends. The past season has been fraught with unusual interest on many accounts. We have been visited with domestic afflictions. Early in March that fearful scourge the scarlet fever made its appearance in our circle. Our little John was violently attacked. The scarlatina anginosa assumed its most alarming type. But in our extremity when hope had abandoned Physician & Parents & friends God hearkened on prayer & he began to mend. As he began to mend our other little boys were taken down. The disease with them assumed its simple type & passed off without serious alarm. In the near prospect of death the consolations of the gospel were the support of our little boy. It was very touching to listen to the expressions of his simple confidence in the dear Redeemer. I thought much of the expression of the Saviour "Except ye receive the kingdom of God as a little child." A little previous to the sickness of our children myself & wife & Wm. very narrowly escaped a sudden death. We had started to cross the river on the ice the bridge being out of repair. It was just at evening. The ice had failed a few hours before. A gentleman living some 20 rods distant was providentially by the river the moment I drove in sight. He was aware of the danger & turned until I drove up. I drove on to the ice without suspicion of danger. He told to stop. I hesitated. He said he thought the ice unsafe. I alighted. He stepped forward about the length of the horse & waggon & with a little stick just over the rapid current in the deep channel of the river he thrust through the ice as through a honeycomb. For the first in my life I turned about & gave up an expedition which I had commenced. The next morning I passed on the bridge & gazed upon the fearfully rapid current all clear of ice. "In the midst of life we are

in death." It continues a season of spiritual refreshing with my dear people. Since my return I have baptized 13 in this place & 4 in Illinois. There are others waiting another opportunity. No meeting passes without evident tokens of the Divine presence. I rejoice in the kindness and mercy of God to you. May your infant son prove a rich blessing from the Lord. Have you received the Bap. Bib.? If you have credit it to J. O. B. I have been engaged this spring in repairing & enlarging my house. It has been a tedious expensive job. It is going to be very convenient. I have worked the hardest I believe that I ever did in my life. My health holds out excellently. My wife has never enjoyed as good health since we were married as during the last six months. She works as hard as I do. We are in an eminent degree contented & happy. The smiles of a gracious Providence & the light of the Saviour's countenance shine upon us. We should much rejoice to see our friends but circumstances forbid the idea of visiting at present. I wonder if any of them will ever visit us. I feel deeply afflicted with the sorrows of Sister Gage. It touched my very heart. When I hear in prayer I spread her case & family & Albert & the one him that hears prayer. To what cause is A's insanity attributed & is it promising? Our silk worms are hatched & doing finely. We have 35 chickens, 9 ducks & 2 turkeys. Give my warmest love to our dear aged parents & all our dear friends. I shall await the arrival of your answer with much interest. I preached by request at Fredonia on our national fast from Isaiah 40-6. I do hope Bro. Nathan will be induced speedily to confess the name of that Saviour on whom he felt at least in the near prospect of death. May God's blessing rest upon you in basket & in store & especially in the rich communications of his heavenly grace

Yours most affectionately

Geo. P. Burdett

Lorenzo Dow Burdett

Lect. G. P. Burdett

Sangerfield — August 30th 1840

Dear Brother

I take my penin in hand to
give you a little information about your
relation in this country Mothers family
are all in usual state of health except
myself the children are all in usual health
the boys are all at home but two are
in store in Brookfield the other
are busily engaged in their business
on myself I have not done any
this year and not much since I
with you since warm weather I
back running down constantly
now so feeble that I can't set up more
than half the time I have employed our
physicians all to no purpose I have been
and north to a german doctor
he says I have got the consumption
but thinks he can help me unless
I get help before cold weather I fear
I shall not stand it through the winter
I hope if possible you and your family
will make us a visite soon I shall be glad to
see you once more the blessing of
health we do not know how to prize
until we are sick the greatest of
blessings if you have got that deer skin tannid
fetch it if you should come and we will
pay for tanning it Mother and the boys send
their compliments to you all

C. P. Bancroft

J D Bancroft

Write you will come up if you can all of you

John D. Bancroft Mu Sat.

10 Hampsonville

Henry Bancroft

Watervile Broom Co

Augn 30 [illegible]

7071

July 11. 1841.

Dear Br & Sist — We would return our early thanks for the punctuality and fervent with which you continue our correspondance. Our will try in our poor way to return the favour and if we fail in intrest not in faithfulness — The scarlatina has visited you but a kind providence has joined his mercy with his faithfulness, and spared your little circle and as we hope for future usefulness &c &c — God's peculiar providence. "He carth for us" Why are we not as thankful for a merciful providence which afflicts for our good, as for a signal protection from an impending evil to the bod — We have no additions to our Spiritual Zion — But they are now adding a few babes to the Chrisc in our sight — We have received five numbers of of the Bapt Lib — and do with pleasure credit them to our Friend Job — We are highly pleased to hear that your health is so good and that you are so happy and contented — Your friends frequently enquire if you write of coming out on a visit, but we have not heard any express a determination to go and make you a visit — at present — we wish to caution you about any remarks in your letters, respecting Albert's malady — as his friends think it not expedient that his mind should be agitated by a knowledge that distant friends know any thing about it &c — His derangement was caused by a vitiated state of the secretions causing a determination to the head. perhaps the whole may be traced farther back to bad company and improper habits. — — — He is now at home and very steady, works faithfully — all your friends are about as in our last — Oscar has been up to Wm Turner this spring but we have not been up — Father, Mother & Wm H. B — were here the 2d Sunday in June — Wealthy Birdsall (uncle Mick. dau) staid here last night said Father had hauled it down from Nathan's to Hunter last week — — my business is better than I expected —

Sept. 25. /41. after advancing thus far in my letter I was broken off by an obstetric call and have been very busy ever since, so that I am behind also in a letter to my brother in Sangerfield, and one in Harpersfield and one to my nieces in Hudson City, with whom I have recently opened a correspondence. Have not heard any thing since the above from Olge — Nathan's health is considered delicate — Our little H. Birdsall is a fine plump little fellow — but has been rather worry some for a day or two —

Our hay crop in this section is rather light but other crops are usually good — Have had a tremendous thunder gust here recently which did considerable damage, in narrow sections — prostrating timber, two barns, some crops — in some parts the hail broke considerable glass &c.

and now I will close by wishing you and young every blessing — S. C. B. —

Dear Cousin —

I here send some lines composed by my Father on the death of my Dear brother: —

Hope like an angel came

Elia J. Bordwell

Mr. John C. Bancroft
Harpersville
Broome Co.
N. Y.

Myron

The first verse pa had placed on a pretty little marble tomb-stone
Which we have placed at the head of his Grave

Date Lucius his brother was killed

To Deacon Samuel Martin (A)

Hamilton Sunday Sept 19 1847

This day arrived at this town at about 9 o'clock in the morning. Truly to bless God for his goodness in once more bringing me safely back to this place. It looks like home to me. Things remain about as I left them, except there has been 1 or 2 deaths in the vicinity. There are many kind Brethren here who welcome me back with great apparent joy. My mind still turns toward home and the scenes through which I have passed within I was last there. As I contemplate that awful night of the 20th of August 1847 the tears starts & may my callous heart never become so hardened as not to weep whenever faithful memory recalls the piteous sighs. Tis nature's voice which bids us weep for those we loved on earth. Our saviour wept at the grave of dear Lazarus. David mourned for Jonathan & Absalom in a manner which would doubtless have called extravagant & immoderate at the present day. Yet in no part of his history does the beauty of his character shine forth more conspicuously, as a man, and a christian, than when he breaks out in expressions like these, Oh my son Absalom! My son, my son Absalom!! Would God I had died for thee, Oh Absalom my son, my son. See also the 18th chap 2nd Samuel 18th to the end of the chap. Sept 20th commenced reviewing Grimke.

Attended an abolition meeting in the evening. Pledged my life liberty and sacred honour to support the cause of Liberty. May the Lord help me!

Sept 21st. Have not enjoyed very good health today. Took cold coming up on the canal & have not felt very well since. Hope to get over it soon. All alone I sit by the faint glimmer of a poor candle and try to collect my wandering thoughts so as to look over the events of the day. & what I have been about & what motives have actuated me. Oh what a dark catalogue of evil thoughts, idle words, and sinful

actions, will the judgments reveal against me unless they are washed away by the blood of Christ. Oh! what daily need of the grace of God which leadeth unto repentance & which will prevent from falling into sin I room alone. Br Loveland is gone Br Bliss is gone all my most intimate friends are gone but I am not alone or lonely. Soon they will all be back and the term will begin. Sept Today made arrangements with a brother to hear me recite the rest of the vacation (3 weeks) for two dollars. I have two lessons of an hour each. I find no time to write except when I am sleepy enough to be in bed. The Bed Bugs are only outnumbered by the grasshoppers in the fields. & either would remind one of the plagues of ~~Eng~~ Egypt. Sept 23 This evening went a fishing but caught nothing. It is more late and I must retire. Good Night. Sept 24 Feels rather thick, hard work to learn my lessons. Still bodily health is much improved. I like boarding myself very well thus far. When I left home I expected to be in Hamilton in about 2 days. so I write what I was about for nearly a week before I got here. Monday after bidding father farewell I went to Binghamton with Esq Kassons and returning staid with uncle James over night; Tuesday walked to Mt Crane Trip. the Forks and Phineas bring out with a waggon I rode over and staid with uncle James again, Wednesday staid around and about the Forks until nearly night when a boat passing down I rode down to J. M. Dickson's and staid over night; They are all about as well as usual, they expect father Brownell out this fall; Katherine appeared well and contented

Thursday morning came across the river and found a boat coming up got on board rode to Port Crane put on my plunder and on one stride over right at Park's in the South part of Oxford. I finally stopped in Oxford village 4 or 5 hours, called at Elder Swain's Dr Brooks and saw a good number of old friends to Norwich and staid with George F. he is well, I found him at home. He told me he should visit Coleville soon. Saturday came on nearly to Earlville and staid with Capt Ladd Sunday morning came into town about 9 in the morn at Sent. 25th I can scarcely keep myself good natured enough to be comfortable; Pshaw! Dusty brains! My mind is the quintessence of dullness. It seems like 10 years since I studied Latin or Greek. Those principles which I considered as firmly fixed in my mind and which were ready in any emergency are now gone gone entirely gone. and must be learned anew But I will not be discouraged. I will trust in God I will pray for a submissive and humble spirit. My proud heart is too apt to think it knows it all. I shall probably not be able to enter the class which I had intended. As soon as Dr Bliss returns I shall try to get those books which I agreed to get for Fredericks. If he goes South he must start soon. If not, I wish he would come up to this County and take a village school for the winter. I can't advise. May the Lord direct. If I have a wish on earth, next to my desire for his salvation, it is that Frederick may be prospered in life and be a great good in the world. I'll write as soon as possible. Zada wished me to write some to each one and perhaps I shall be able to find room on this sheet to attend to this is intended for all our folks

Should fill this space

Here the family chain is broken but Angels indeed whose name
Angels. By the memory of dying friends. By your love for me.
your Parents, your brothers & your sisters. By all your hopes
of Hell & hopes of heaven, By every motive which can
operate on your minds I adjure you Shun evil companions.
Zadap. you are not too young to die Oh! love Jesus. he died for sinners
Betsey. Cultivate peace and friendships, be lovely and you will be love
Eliza. Be good girls. write me a line when our folks write.

Farewell, Sanford

Deacon Samuel Martin (B)

Forward Mail

Washington 1841

Hamilton Sept 26

Brooklyn

Father, May Agur's petitions still comfort you.
Mother, Take care, Oh take care of your health.
Elvira. Keep an eye your soul, health, husband & home.
Sidney, "Never give up the ship", though all hands desert it.
Lois. "How sweet is the bower, perfumed by the pines" Still pay on.
Mary, "There is an hour of peaceful rest, to restless mortals given"
Frederick. Jesus was nailed to the cross for sinners
to make it possible for the chief of sinners to come to
him and live, are you ready to come. if not what an excuse

1905

Maria Kelly

Chicago Oct 26th '71

My Friends Tuesday morn 9 o'clock

I feel ashamed to let you know how long I have neglected writing the cause of my neglect was to see if Sarah got any letter but she is not. She did according as the Dr directed in every respect till she had taken the tincture once each. She then quit taking it, and was worse at long as she took it. She continued taking, taking the pills, she took them up, and then commenced taking Hennings pills but on the whole we do not think as she is any better. Dear, I must tell you something concerning the rest of the family we are very much affected our Philip is no more, he died Thursday on the eve of 5th last about ten o'clock he was not out of his senses after you was here Appleton came home the day you left and was almost constantly by his side, as long as he lived he was very insensible of his situation and at times did not know the family they took me up Sunday before his death and carried me in to see him for the last time, while living, we have been informed by persons since his death that he complained to them of their neglecting him but he was very delirious. I think mother was very incomprehensible the cause of my telling you this is we did not know but he complained to you if he did, we wish you not to lay anything up as a memorial against her, for I think she done all she could please excuse all mistakes for I write, while I'm the bed not being able to set up and my mind is very much agitated with other afflictions I was last night informed of the death of a much loved friend that lived on the opposite side of the river which was very unexpected to me. Please write as soon as you receive this

My Dear Friends Maria Kelly

J. H. Bishop Esq — Demarest John Henry Harpersville Dec 23

Dear Bro — Your letter, came to hand 15 inst — last Saturday, forwarded from Hopewell to
that you will be under the necessity of writing Harpersville more distin
It came to hand with the Bro — message, I was very anxious to read both but w
under the necessity of deferring them on account of an urgent call, and
Call has succeeded another, which with a sick cow have prevented m
answering to your wish — and now with my wife sewing beside me, Osca
Shelley corn for his geese & turkey one of which he designs to celeb
his little Bro — Birth day with. who lies quietly in his little cradle you
es, as unconscious of the intended honours as the Emperor of the Celestial emp
is of the great honours the young prince of wales intends for him — Laur
It would be very pleasing to have you here to discuss a Turkey with us —
Are we not a happy family, or at least ought we not to be happy family
and surely we shall be, if we can have in addition to present ble
Contentment, or perhaps more properly resignation to this I sho
think very essential to happiness in this life. — we have no particulars of interest
write, are all in good health, and our friends in Otsego were the last we have
them except that Albert, after spending the summer very steady at work on the farm
has again become a rover, — I — I was call off
make some eye water and therefore is left with out an associate, and the
idea, poor thing is lost — I have received a letter from a daughter of m
half Sister, Demarest, residing in Clavarack, she gives a very interesting acco
of my ancestors there — we are quite anxious to make them a visit, but not hav
paid up our borrowed money is rather a damper to our wishes — so we shall poster
we have the Baptist Library rather irregularly, how do you like it? I notice
something in your last Register from Eld. John O. Birdsall, it made me
of the poor neglected heathen in London. O poor human nature, ope
the rich oppress the poor, when will our legislators be consistant and make
laws as will enable the industrious poor to provide for themselves, instead of laws
assist the rich in their oppressions, when will the benevolent provide for the
and vicious at home, instead of exhausting all their energies abroad

Dr Friend Bishop
Hopewell
Ontario Co
N.Y.

North Norwich Decr. 5th. 1843.

Dear Br. Bancroft,

In reply to your communication, I can say but little at present, and that little not as the moderator of the Ministerial Conference of this Association. I should be pleased to visit Harpersville, and may possibly do so before long, though I am at present negotiating with another church. In regard to Eld. Miller I can say nothing except by report. He rings in this part of the world like a cracked "earthen vessel." I confess I have my doubts about his standing, as a gospel minister, and I am a little surprised that the brethren in Colesville have been willing to sit under his administration of the word & ordinances so long, knowing at the same time that his standing, to say the least, was doubtful; as I am informed by Br. Darby that he sent to yourself a copy of the proceedings of a certain council, called some four years ago to look into his case. Nothing was said or done about him at our conference, as a Conference. After sermon in the evening, the members of the Conference, and some others, retired to the basement of the meeting-house, and a free interchange of feelings & views took place. If I recollect rightly, and I believe I do, no resolutions were passed, and nothing done by way of voting except to defer the matter till the day previous to the semi-annual meeting of our Association, which semi annual meeting will occur on 28th. Inst. at Oxford.

What is done respecting him will of course occur on the 27th. Inst. It was thought best to investigate his case, and if he is thought to be worthy of an honorable standing as a minister, we certainly shall be disposed to give it to him, and to sustain his character as such; but if he is not worthy of such standing, we will undoubtedly be published to the world, as every unworthy minister should be. I can not be positive, but I think Br. Martin did not say a labour had been commenced with Br. Wilcox for entering the complaint to the Smithville church against Br. Van Horn, I believe he said distinctly that no labour had been taken up with Br. Wilcox or any other one in your church touching this matter. I do not know that Br. Martin did or said anything improperly at our conference. My own private fears are that Eld. Miller is not in good standing as a minister, or a member in any regular Baptist church. I have regretted that the Colesville church employed him, and my opinion is that you had better defer any action in the case till you know more about the matter. Do not be hasty brethren, but curb all your unpleasant feelings, and love as brethren till you find out who, or whether any of you are in the wrong, and then the right pursue. I will not vindicate Br. Van Horn's course, but I think if Br. Wilcox had known more about Eld. Miller, he would not have made the complaint to the Smithville church. But hold on brethren, do not ignite your matches yet, for I hope the truth may come out, and I trust that will satisfy all. Send over as full a delegation as you please to meet the brethren at Oxford on the 27th. Inst. and pray about it till then, and I think the crooked places will be made straight, and the rough places plain. Tell Br. Martin, and Br. Wilcox & all the rest to keep quiet; do not "stir up the mud" among yourselves yet, for I fear you will only get yourselves into difficulty. Yours Affectionately.

Br. Bancroft.

Ezra Dean.

[illegible]

Dear Father—

[illegible] Though the doctors never [illegible] hopeful
Parent I am still in the land of the living— My health
has been very good up to this time— I am quite unwell today
being worn out with watching, hard study, & despondency. Mr Wilson
is very sick & I shall be [illegible] with him [illegible]
[illegible] & a little [illegible] & Friends
& their assaulting! I could [illegible] with him, & [illegible]
[illegible] very anxious I should watch with him, & [illegible]
[illegible] to follow the doctor's directions— As it [illegible]
[illegible] are the most pleasing & interesting [illegible] ever perused—
[illegible] History of the Church, & the Great [illegible]
[illegible] of the Bible! [illegible] since I commenced the
[illegible] subject. The Father of [illegible], & we are now on
the [illegible] of [illegible]! Pray for Eula [illegible] in answer to a call from
[illegible] Chas has gone [illegible] spend a few weeks
with them & [illegible] a Meeting. To our history [illegible]
[illegible] The news of [illegible] Revivals come [illegible]
[illegible] The [illegible] is [illegible] & The good work here goes on, I have baptized [illegible]
[illegible] & the Church is [illegible] meetings
[illegible] We had a
prayer Meeting last night which was our regular weekly Meeting but
[illegible] was evidently present & a meeting was appointed for the
[illegible] which was well attended, nearly all the institution was
together & several who are not professors. It was a
good time— the Lord was in our midst. I think we shall
see a glorious revival in the Institution. Pray for us. There
are 10 young men in our midst who profess to be in the Saviour
[illegible] & make them [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible] door, & [illegible] is opened. [illegible]
[illegible] endeavours [illegible] their influence &
[illegible] power in that [illegible] but [illegible] & interior
portion of our country. The Indian tribes, Canada & Texas
[illegible] & inviting fields for the self-denying missionary
[illegible] the hundreds of millions of China [illegible]
aide, the field has been much enlarged by the late [illegible]
of [illegible]. The great empire of China is thrown [illegible]
the reception of the gospel. From Africa, injured! [illegible]
down Africa comes a mournful wail! She cries [illegible]
for the light of life to show the way of salvation. Doom [illegible]
renounced in sang. The voice of weeping & lamentation is heard.
The light of her Science has died away & the light of her
[illegible] which once shone here is so obscured that they need
some to point them the way of life! The view of all Scripture
[illegible] with the past. In the desert let me labour, on the mountains
let me die! Pour he died— the [illegible] Saviour— to redeem
a world from hell! My prayer is that I may be [illegible]
led by heaven to some field where I may be useful, & begin
[illegible] to Christ— My liberal education would seem to say the
home field is most proper for me, but I cannot [illegible]
to decide, pray for me that I may be directed in this [illegible]
Write me your advice & counsel. It is 10 o'clk & I must retire!
Good night

(Monday Noon)

A bright morning. Health fairly improved. We have clear, cold, & bright days & nights in hurried succession. The winter has come, & still no snow; but it will soon have. With the blessing of providence I may be home in 6 weeks from the time I get this. The Gospel will come with life if the church want him, & there should be an attentive ear for him to pile down. His health is very good now & bright, but I think he studies too hard. I hear that he is about to leave Harpersville, that he has no settled prospect — home — I want to hear how you get along & how is the church. The way I heard from Harpersville was by a student who was talking about an invitation which he had to go to Harpersville, & seemed not to know that I knew anything about the place. Till I had cooled out all of it without it. He says Elder Miller was very anxious that he should go to Harpersville & settle, & so gave up his plan. Stating he was sorry to leave the little church off in without preaching, but he did feel as if he could not go out there since he had a call nearer home.

He made no inquiry about you, though he knew the Sp. was coming right on to the distribution. I can pardon the neglect, though I felt it was unjust at it. You will believe me when I say I am still persuaded of the feelings towards Elder Miller, but I dread the influence he has exerted, & is still exerting on the church instead of drawing the church together, he widens the breach!

I need a letter from Mary, that talked of home folks. Since which we have written one sister Azel. It seems that the Golden Rule has stopped, for "next year" since the Times, perhaps they will stop again by & by, if they do I shall spend time on the poor.

I feel now as if I could write nothing that would be interesting to you this morning, you must not be told that I am somewhat nervous my style I could tell you, yet I am no more than is usual for me in the winter. I think that requires the most speak on a subject on which I would gladly keep silent, I mean my pecuniary affairs. A certain kind of pride (which I come honestly by) has hitherto prevented my making known my determination but after all the aid I have already received it is ungrateful in me not to fear to let you know my exact circumstances. I received the money you left the last time for purchase of lots & with you, & I trust with thankfulness. & entrusted it for the long wished object of the delight. At that time I resolved but 2 of for winter. I endeavored finding to pick up work to keep the family.

Not long after I was advised by my teachers, 3 members of the faculty to take lessons on reading of a celebrated teacher of elocution who was in the place, for a short time only. I felt my want of means, but nothing ~~but~~ to make the most of what I had to prepare for usefulness & preaching, my great need of training ~~training~~ in reading & speaking made up my mind & I studied a course of lessons, which would cost $12. I felt willing to work for money to have my eyes open, and as yet have been able to obtain work only to the amount of $12 cents, which by the way I have not yet paid, by the way, the money is all gone, & I have not earned a cent in 4 weeks. The brethren are kind, and yet I feel that I have been able to get along. Perhaps I ought ~~could~~ have saved some more of the money I had, but I needed the books & beside that was the object for which you let me have it, & I expected to be able to get more work. You will think a new break has come across me, yet there is, I have been praying for means, hoping to get along without breaking my troubles to you, & felt that it was a time of general scarcity that you have a very low ebb money in providing for the family. I feel the same still, but there is nothing in all which of those debts of your hands, which should make me ashamed to tell the truth.

Monday Evening

We had a good meeting today, the Lord was evidently in our midst. This evening we listened to a report on the state of various missionary stations, at the regular monthly report before the Society of Inquiry. Elder Robinson's & Jewett's Secret Society. Tis very strange, how credulous some people are, when it accords with their covetousness to be so. Secret Society! What you have heard the day after still farther experience, there is not a word of truth in it! There is no such society here — This is the source of often false impressions & reports, which may current with a certain class of our good brethren, & leading members to refute if required. That every [illegible] to perfection here, cannot be expected, when it is considered that the ministry are founded, & have been supported & strengthened by human instrumentality. But it should be a powerful agent in giving a fallen world, the word of eternal life, by giving discipline, & efficiency to the minds of those, from whom the Lord has called & the churches whom are [illegible] the [illegible] gospel, & [illegible] the respectability of [illegible] the difficulties with this church. Although I hate [illegible] this institution, a notice, bringing to contradiction, yet on perusal it is with what jealousy they would watch the liberty & independence of the Churches. Their principles are right, their motives would not impugn, but their views are short sighted & their reasoning prejudiced & inconclusive. I hope I shall never be led to [illegible] with the opinions & feelings of such, but this I may cannot see! While it would extend the mantle over the prejudice, at home, there are others who do not [illegible] it. For instance for Jewett to publish in his paper, & endeavour to create the impression that donations of clothing sent here for the students were purloined, or sold by the students, is more beyond conception, the unchristian insciousness over which, the golden rule do not [illegible] to stretch our charity. This may seem severe, but I can conceive no excuse which he can claim. He had been here & knew better. But I must close. When I commence it [illegible] thoughts where my pen would run. When I write home, it is without premeditation, & I never take time to copy. Write by to know the reason of this silence during the [illegible]. It is said she is to come home, perhaps she might recollect a Davis who was a theologian at the first year, & who graduated last August. Miss Fitts from Mass. Miss Fitts from Lace of [illegible] by Miss Fitts from N. Haven Ct. who came very high recommended. Our Miss Ayles is in the [illegible] Miss Fitts is lately married to Mr. Ralph. Miss Fitts is well [illegible] Many kind inquiries [illegible] Mrs. Moore the same. Miss A— a [illegible] resides with Dr. Ogden right down here at the foot of the hill. Edgar Elijah Ogden is dead. He died last month. I have heard from Mrs. Yates & daughter once, by the way of the Shires. They were well but the [illegible] cant to get back to Hamilton. I hear little that is doing in town & have not concerned myself about the academy or its fields. My dear brother wishes to learn particulars particulars. Dear sister, I should say by the way, I have heard nothing of the Brandreys in Jerusalem, or elsewhere, having made no inquiries about them, for which she will pardon me. But my time is full, & our Sabbath & I must close, I wish to be remembered to all inquiring friends. Please write soon, the time seems long since I heard from home. Pardon the hasty manner of this letter as you see it was written during odd spells. Farewell. May the blessing of Heaven rest upon you all, your affectionate Sister

1776

Dea Samuel Martin

Colesville

Broome Co

N. Y.

8 1843

Single

1789

Knoxville Jan 2d /84

Dearest Parents

By the merciful dispensation of an all wise Providence I am alive & well. My health has been good since I left home. I have rec'd two of the Register, & have mailed 6 nos of the S. W. Baptist to you. — No letter has yet come to hand from you. How is that? Are you all so employed about your own affairs as to forget me? If you mark newspapers, do it on the outside, for it is found to <u>secrete</u> information about a newspaper. I had rather you would not try to convey news in any way on the wrapper, or about the paper, if it is not right. The snow is now about 1½ inches deep. It fell today. Before this, we have had a very pleasant winter, & not an half inch of snow at a time. Perhaps you think it must have been all mud. But no! the ground has been dry, & the roads good. To be sure the mud was getting bad during the past week, & the "real mud" here is bad enough, not like anything you ever saw, but Black "Sticky" real Greasy Mud. It must be "enjoyed" to be appreciated. It is not often that I feel the distance which stretches between us. I often dream of home, that dear old spot protected by the hills. In visions of the night, clairvoyant, oft I gaze on those past scenes of boyish life.

I seem, as once I might have deemed, or been.
Except more light & joyous far, than yet
Has fell to lot of any boy to feel,
Up comes the same old winter school, where once
I sat delving with might & main, for love
Hid deep in Crandal's Spelling Book. There sit,
The boys & girls, just as they used to sit,
Who now are scattered far, or in the grave.—
And then the evening scene, The crack'ling fire
Leaping over "back-log" high, did spot in front,
And well stored corner full of wood, while squeaked
The braiding lash, or father slept & snored
Before the fire, I work & play, where not
I worked & played, The same old Bell
And Brown pro'ell the plough, Old George right smart
Can gallop still, I drive the self same steers,
Or grub the same old Thistle patch,
And when the sun's last rays gild "Likin" hill
I start to fetch the cows, just as of old,
But wherefore dream? or wherefore write your dreams?
Pardon this, I did not mean to write it so when
I began, I have just rendered my first quarterly
report, the date of my commission having been altered
from Nov 1st. to Oct 1st. Have preached 34 sermons, or
tried to, Delivered 2 Temperance addresses, & one funeral address,
attended 10 conference & Prayer meetings, 2 Church
meetings, obtained 2 signatures to the Temp. Pledge,
visited two common schools, Distributed about 400 pages
tracts & travelled 100 miles in filling my appointments.
(Made 64 religious visits)

bed Jan 3. U blustering Mormon, the cold we have had this winter, I had planned a trip to Geneseo, Stephenson, & Davenport which would take me about 50 miles north from here, but the bad weather will prevent my going at present. Bishop Chase the Episcopalian Bishop of Illinois was here last Sabbath & organized a church of 5 members, Mormons & Catholics are thick in these regions, Campbellites are plenty. We want men, & women go-Missionaries, Tract distributers, Sunday-School Teachers & Superintendents, I doubt not but duty requires many, who are not ministers to come West that they may do more for the cause of Christ, than they can possibly do at the east. Only 5 miles from here is the Galesburgh College, under the care of Prest. W. H. Kellogg formerly of the Young Ladies Domestic Seminary Clinton N.Y. I shall not crowd this letter, as another will be coming soon if you "don't" write give my love to friends & foes. Pray for me. & for the Destitute West. I am alone in this county, for there is no Baptist Minister to help me, yet I am not discouraged, Since I came here I have seen but one preacher who is devoting his time to the ministry. Write, do write! Tell Elvira & Sidney to write & all the rest of the friends to Write!

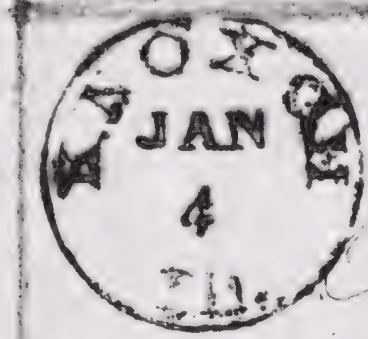
Samuel J Washburn

Governor

Office Secretary of State

S. Martin

25



Dear S. Martin

Colesville

Broome Co

N.Y.

and they (the Chh.) expect that those Elders will be c the
sulted & their Chhs. invited to attend said council.
We have directed the inclosed line to the above brethren &
if it should meet your aprobation we should like to have
you convey it to them lay the subject fully before them state
that we do not seek to exculpate the guilty — but that
a gospel course should be taken in all cases where the
interest of Zion are at stake — Pray to be here at our
next meeting as above remember at Broth Bancroft on Thurs
day — the 29th instant — Yours Chas Patrick Moderator
J. D. Bancroft Clerk —

1851

To Eld.s Chamberlin & Perry — Dear Brethren —
We have been informed by Eld J. J. Miller that
you one or both of you had advised him to ~~call~~ obtain the call of a
Council — to investigate his standing as a minister & brethren
in Christ — and as he complains that a gospel course has
not been pursued with him — and that he earnestly wishes an
impartial investigation — ~~we have~~ the brethren have presented
his letter to the Chh — as was expected some objections were
made to its reception on account of some alleged difficulties
existing — the church then came to the conclusion to revive his
request for the call of a council and to meet said council for
the investigation at such time & place as should be found expedient — with the understan-
ding that such meeting be held ~~at~~ or as near the [illegible] of a
previous meeting of enquiry concerning him as possible — now
what we especially wish is that the investigation may be so mana
as to cut off all complaint as to an ex parte trial — or that there
be no opportunity for the censure of an attempt to infringe
upon the independence of the Churches — We wish you brethren to
act with us — and advise us & broth Miller so as to wipe a way
the reproach cast upon the baptist as being disposed to bite &
devour each other — Let Eld M — if in an error be brought
to see it & confess — if found unworthy — put down — but if
nothing worthy of bonds or of death be found against him let him
go free — and so be useful in the vineyard of his master —

That there ~~should~~ must be a perfect uniformity in sentiment in order to usefulness we cannot suppose — that it is expedient to endeavour to put down every one who may not agree with us in all things — no one will contend — what we should strive for is a conformity to gospel rule — & the primitive usages of Baptist — if they have been departed from we should endeavour to restore them but without any wish to wound or afflict but simply to heal — That a greater breach will be caused in the feelings of brethren, dear now entire unless a thorough investigation is made we truly believe therefore we earnestly request you to cooperate with us that justice may be done & peace restored to Zion — Bro Miller we presume will see you & convey any communication to us which you may see fit to propose — we would wish the council to meet as soon as consistent we expect this Chh. will call the council as soon as informed when it will be most convenient to those brethren & chh. who may compose the council & those whom it will most concerne — & Yours &c —

1952. Harpersville, March 31. 44 —

To the Baptist Chh. of Franklin — Dear Brethren — I rec'd a communication from you through your Clk — in answer to a request from our Chh. for you assistance in a cause which in our opinion concerned the interest of Zion — to say that you & and brethren were grieved at your want of confidence in our integrity or lack of judgment as to what would militate for or against the Baptist cause — which we conceive to be the cause of Christ) must be what you as brethren & gentlemen must have expected — so that we might have passed it in silence — in this communication But the reasons assigned why you could not answer to our call being such as in our opinion so directly put down the independence of the Chh. and at the same time being so contrary to facts we have thought that we should not be doing our duty to the Chenango Association — Eld. Miller or the Chh. of Bro Blessed

1815

Oxford March 6th 1844

Dear Brethren

In my absence, during this day, your letter of the 17th ult addressed to Elder Chamberlain and myself & also yours addressed to the Baptist Church in this place dated the 2nd inst. were left at my house

The more I have heard of Elder Miller's difficulty from himself & others the more reluctant I have felt to have any thing to do with it

But I am aware that justice to him & the cause of our Blessed Redeemer requires that something be done I understand that eleven churches have been written to though I know not which churches

I should think, to remove all cause for complaint & to wipe off reproach, as you very properly desire, that the parties who brought the accusation or charges vs Elder Miller & the Moderator & Secretary of the council at Green should be notified & invited to attend as witnesses. &

And if a council can be held in Committee which shall aim for the truth - nothing else - & can have such order & decorum as becomes a christian body, transacting business for Christ's Kingdom & the Glory of God I would do all I can - with others to remove the wound which has been made by this long standing difficulty

I advised Br Miller not to select a council wholly from a among his friends but as far as possible from those who know the least about it, or who would be least likely to be prejudiced

I am but little acquainted in this section, but consider Brethr Bennett of McDonough & Brethr Parker of Covington good Counsellors -

I doubt not but you desire the Glory of God & the best interest of the churches & that your acquaintance & judgement will guide you to a good selection

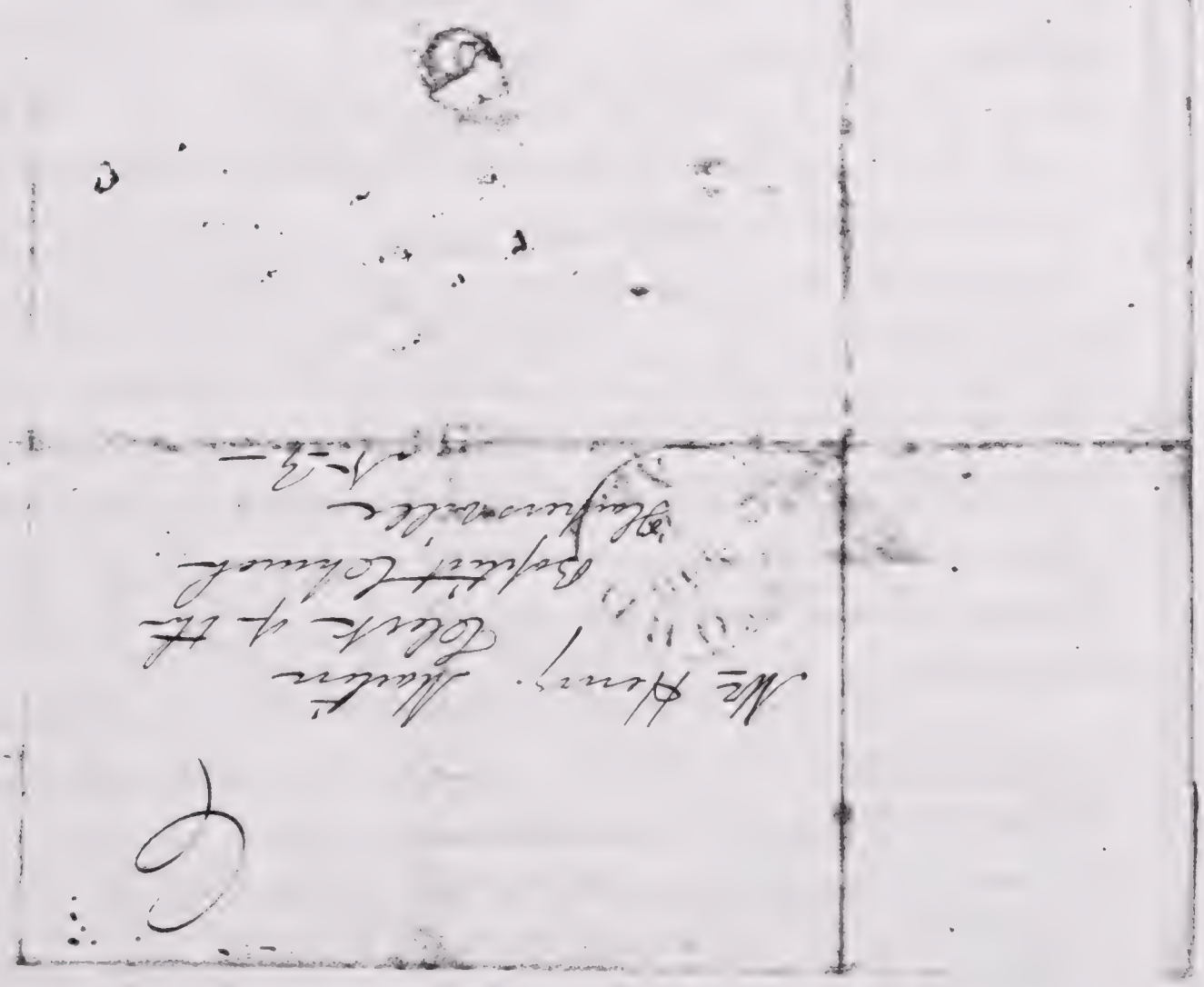
Yours for the peace & prosperity of the church of Christ
E. G. Pease

I am glad to learn that you have written to the churches in Warwick & Newberry & Oxford for I believe that council & some brethren may be sent from these churches whose minds are unbiased & I presume the same of other churches

Yours truly E. G. Pease

Of course you will perceive that all the parties interested so far as known, should be duly & seasonably notified

May the Lord direct you & each of us



Lord — justice — did we not notice them — and call your atten=
=tion as brethren of the same great family to review them, and if
upon mature consideration you feel that injustice has
been done to any — to rectify whatsoever may be amiss — &
Firstly — Had the statement of your pastor been correct viz. that
the Chenango Association had put down Eld. M. — would it not
have been another act of usurpation over the independence of the Chh
which we as a Chh. ought to have complained of — and for the cor=
=rection of which we should be justified in calling a Council &
you as a Chh. ought to have cheerfully cooperated with us —
But 2d The these statements not being the facts — But such
or like rumors bring a brand in the Chhs for we do not accuse
your Pastor, whom we highly esteem, as having originated them, only
as having given circulation to them) ought you not brethren to cheerfully
to cooperate with every sister church, in correcting such reports alike
injurious to the association — independent Chhs and individual
Brethren — I say individual brethren for what Br can feel
safe — or be safe who is amenable to two different tribunals —
a Chh. to which he belongs and an association —
But Bretn I will leave the subject no further — your own good —
Sense — & Brotherly affection will point out to you the Christian
Course — But let me beg of you as brethren of the same Christian
Communion — members of the same association bound together for
definite and laudable purposes, do not pursue
a course which shall separate very friends — I know some —
feel disposed to cast off all who cannot agree with them
in all things — but is that the best course — I know that an impre=
=ssion has gone out unfavourable to our Chh — because we
withdrew from the Association, when Eld. Storrs was preaching
to us — but our movement was with a design to keep difficulty
out of the association & keep the Chh. together — & we affected our
object — & Eld. S. has no further influence here — not has any one
out of the Chh. any undue influence over us which will influence
us to do ought — from what we may think are the dictates of the Gospel
Thus much I think I can say as the sentiments of my brethren —

Yours in the Bonds of the Gospel

H. Martin

1453 Harpersville, Apr. 17. '44

To Bishop John C. Birdsall —

Dear Sir. Your letter of Feb. 13. '44 came duly to hand. we read it with sorrow mingled with thanks giving — sorrow at your affliction — Thanks giving at the merciful providence of God in your restoration, if but in part — and that kind and sympathising friends were provided for your accommodation — I thought first I would write to you soon — but finally postponed it with a hope to see your brother Nathan and friends — That we might consult and write two mutual sentiments & plans — we had just returned from Otsego — Father had been quite sick — confined to his bed with a severe cut of his foot — and great prostration of his frame so much so that his life had been despaired of — but was better — we herd from him yesterday by Enoch Copley, who resides in Windsor and had been up to Otsego — ~~He further~~ Father was quite comfortable Brother Nathan was better — he had been quite low with an affection of his lungs — But Mary Pierce was no better, the probability is that she never will get well — Her disease is a female affection producing an disease of the lungs — We have a young son; born Nov 27 — Have named him Edward Clemuest. Think he appears as promising as either of our previous boys — we are in usual health except colds — the babe has a severe cold. — We think that we enjoy a better state of religious feeling than usual but st[illegible] that we do not come up to our high privilege — Eld. Earl is now with us for a couple of Sabbath and will probably engage for the years — He is from Smyrna, Che. Co.

You ask me for advice — I wish I could give it to profit — I have been waiting to have an opportunity to consult your brother & friends — ~~but [illegible]~~ I think you had not better under take business of any kind — but if your health will permit bring your family here and see what arrangements can be made for your comfort and health — and most satisfactory to your family — —

Perrysburgh May 1st 1844

Dear cousin

It is with a heavy very heavy heart that I sit down to address you once more. The rumor concerning Mothers death of which uncle spoke was but too true. She died on the 6th of April of measles. Her last sickness was peaceful. Her spirit was calm yea calmer than the summer eve. She was taken sick two weeks before she died her measles were rather long in coming out, but after they turned she began to get better we thought, but alas how deceitfull are all human appearances. The day before she died she sat up half most nearly all of the day. In the evening she showed more strength than she had shown any time since her measles came out. What more shall I say on this painful subject. I have briefly told the painful story. We are in middling good health except bad colds. Father gains very slowly. We are now boarding away yours my love to all my friends

your cousin

Jno A J Bancroft

Wm O Bancroft

Perrysburg May 18th 1844

My very Dear Bro. & Sister,

I received your last letter in some four or five days after it was mailed. By the same mail I received one from Brother Nathan & another from my Mother-in-law. The sentiments of deep & heartfelt sympathy expressed in them all were indeed like a balm to my wounded spirit. You have doubtless long before this received full & painful confirmation of the sad news concerning the death of my wife. You probably recollect that she supposed herself to have had the measles at her fathers the season that she went home with you. Consequently we had no suspicion of the character of her disease until a few days previous to the fatal issue. Four of the children including the babe were down with the measles at the same time with their mother. Her disease was regarded as a severe case of bilious pneumonia until the eruption took place. After the turning of the measles we all thought she doing well. On the fatal night of her departure I left her at 10 O'clock apprehensive of no immediate danger. Before leaving her I awoke her, spoke with her & felt her pulse &

1216

Some Uncle [illegible] the death of Thos. [illegible]

29

Doct. J. D. Bancroft
Harpersville
Broome Co.
N. Y.

thought she appeared much better than in the afternoon. About 3 o'clock in the morning the watchers discovered a sudden change & called me. Before I reached her she had ceased to breathe! Thus has the desire of my eyes been taken away by one sudden stroke! My heart & house & children are left desolate! My own health though much improved is still extremely poor: I still regard my life as hanging on a precarious thread. I have been attempting to preach once on the sabbath for a few weeks past. I find the exercise rather less propitious than I could wish. The past week has been wet & cold & I have been extremely unwell. I am now living with my orphan children in my once pleasant but now dreary & desolate home & boarding at Bro. Zeigler's who lives near me. A kind neighbor has charge of my sweet little babe. My friends here continue to manifest for me the greatest sympathy & kindness. But O! how utterly desolate I am! Which way to turn or what to do I know not. I feel deeply affected by the fraternal kindness which has prompted you & my other friends to invite my return. On mere account it would be to me very desirable. Yet there seem great difficulties to lie in the way. I can see no way to get my child in there. I cannot see ~~how I could get~~ any way by which I could keep them together if I was there. If I am soon to die I have a special choice to rest in death by the side of her with whom I have spent so large a portion of my life. It seems to me that death will not long divide us. Yet I may be mistaken. Death has but little dread to me. The grave seems a pleasant resting place. Yet I do not count it. Were it God's will I would choose to live for the sake of my children & to observe any other gracious purposes he may have in prolonging my days. Yet I have ceased to be deeply anxious even for my children. He has said in his word "Leave thy fatherless children". I feel to rest in his mercy for them as well as for my own poor soul. I have made known to Bro. Nathan my wishes concerning my children in case of my removal. I have only to add now that whether I live or die I should wish to have John spend a few months with you next year to study arithmetic & to practice penmanship. This had been my design for several

years, but I had expected to reciprocate the favor by taking Oscar & teaching him the rudiments of Latin & Greek. — — — —

I have pretty much made up my mind that if Mr. Nathan comes out to see me that I shall go back with him & spend a few weeks again among my friends.

I received intelligence yesterday through Henry Houghton of the death of Mary Pearce. Sad news indeed! And yet why do we lament her? She has ceased indeed from the circles in which she was accustomed to move. But she has not ceased to be. She moves in a more elevated sphere amid the bright inhabitants of the spirit land. Her eyes have seen the King in his beauty. If she & her Aunt have been brought near each other in the land of rest, how pleasant must have been the smile of recognition in that distant land! How fast the ties are multiplying that bind us to a better world!

"There my best friends, my kindred dwell,
There God my Savior reigns."

Leave not to make mention of us in prayer.

Accept from me & from my children the expression of our warmest love.

Yours in deep affliction
Jno. A. Birdsall

Lect. J. L. Bancroft.

1774

Knoxville July 12th 1844.

Dear friends,

In looking over my memorandum, I cannot ascertain that I have written to you since April 21st. I am sorry for this neglect, & will try to write oftener in future. Since which I have rec'd one from Lois Dated April 25, one from Sidney & Elvira, Mailed May 12th, & one from Sada Mailed June 6th. (Lois & Sidney dead). It was cheering to learn, that the Christian prospering May the Lord "add to it daily, ~~[illegible]~~ shall be saved." Give my respects to Mr Earl, say I go to Canton, Fulton Co. Ill. next Sabbath to preach the installation sermon of our old friend Mr A. Gross. Left my Sister & son Sig & stay Mr Gross at Washington, at the Association in fine health & spirits. This premises me of our meeting to the Association. The distance about 60 miles, roads horrible, got stuck in mud 3, or 4, times, got sick & got home alive & have lived ever since, though have felt poorly all the time, I've had ague & fever all summer, & cough longer than one could expect under such circumstances. Wheat is coming in well. – Rye is half done; Corn looks yellow & bad yet some few pieces are forward.

On the evening of the 5th June we had a brush from a tornado. Humble in prayer is our God. "Hear the chariots & [illegible]!

Rush to battle all his storms;
On the chariots of the wind."

It was unlike to anything I ever saw before. The earth seemed to tremble on its foundations. Houses, fences, horses, wagons & everything were rolling in every direction. Nearly all the chimneys in town were

levelled down even with the roofs.
Houses & Stores were unroofed. One ima-
gined two story house was blown into a
pile of rubbish, not excepting the lower
floors. But not miraculously a woman &
4 children, three of whom were upstairs,
all escaped with their lives, suffering only
a few slight bruises. Yet they were all
so frightened by the fright that they are yet
scarcely in their senses.
Horses were blowed from their feet &
rolled like wool-sacks 30, or 40 rods.
A large heavy stage coach was turned 3 times
over. A brand new "Conestoga wagon" was rolled over
with such rapidity as to shatter it to shivers.
No one of the drivers surrounded with the
tire has not been heard from since, whether
Barnes took it, appropriated it to fill the place
of one of his own chariots which was worn out
in the direction of his speed, or whether a
new line is to be started up, is not known.
The greatest damage however most result to
the destruction of the timber. Houses
& fences & waggons can be rebuilt, but
it will take many long years for the forest
to recover from this depredation.
You have, probably heard of the death
of Joe & Brown Smith. It has caused
considerable excitement. The stories vary, some
saying they were shot by a mob who entered
the prison, others, that they were trying to
escape through a window, & the guard justified
in the shooting. At all events they
have gone to their last account, & charity
ought not to prevent saying, with all their
guilt upon their heads, we are not exceed-
ingly sorry though there are many persons, in this
vicinity too, whose hearts have not yet ceased
to rankle.—

I am sensible that my health is, in part, from the climate, the from hard study, or some other cau. People are expecting it to be warm here, on account of the water. The country is so level, & the air is so wet & warm. & the weather so warm the long time & so cold in the, that I shall not be surprised if I get a few "shakes" of the ague; there is tendency to Bilious diseases here.

I went yesterday with Mr Pot to gather Cotton & got almost me so sick with a head-ache that. The weather is very hot & I felt like riding to Canton twenty miles distance to get pills.

I had a severe attack of Bilious fev one week ago last Saturday; but thank it, with a course of Bonesett, I was able to Father Marriss to be sick, & they cur up first rate. The Farmer does not be a large Timber Rattle Snake, below my door-step, if I had not been sick I should have taken some measures to procure a transportation, if I ever come east.

Timber, in this country means no. The land is either timber or pine stud here, if I had room, I could give you a lot of Western Curiosities. For yes; you "I reckon!" For remember; "Mind", as to your mind? you Do you remember? "Slough" a little run, or rivulet, with the bottom out & filled up with mud. They abound & are the greatest hindrance to travel. few of them are bridged, & they often a horse up to the belly. But my page is full, I will keep the rest, till next time.

Give my love to all the friends especially the sick cousins, Maria & Louisa.
I think with the greatest prudence, I shall come out even with the world, at the close of this year, but that I shall have anything to come home with, if I felt disposed, is more than doubtful.

Dear,

Clothing is very high here, I have not got gotten any Summer Clothes, but must soon, or melt. I believe I am about "preached out" here. It seems like the same story, over & over, all the time. I cannot complain of the congregation however, as we have nearly a Court-House full every Sabbath. "Pray for us" Good bye, Sampson,
To all the Family.

J. Martin
Cottonville
Bronwe Co
Ala

Brownsville Ala
July 13/44

1795

Knoxville Aug 18. 1844.

Dear Mary Ann.

It is rather unusual for me to write on the Sabbath. I do like the plan. Yet if I might converse with you a little while, perhaps it would encourage me some. You will see that I am sick, by the hand-writing. We have no meeting at the Court-house today. I was called to go to Charlestown 22 miles east of this to assist in organizing a Chh. My intention was to start on thursday, ride out in the stage, labour from house to house, & preach till after the sabbath & return by stage.

On Wednesday I was taken violently ill, & all my plans failed. I am better now, & hope, soon to be entirely well. "Not my will, but thine O God be done!" May that I may feel to adopt this language more fully.

Wed 21st. Still better, but am suffering under a severe head-ache. The weather is damp & dull. Little news is stirring. Affairs at Nauvoo are again quiet: no rival expor to the prophet has been elected as yet.

Our county & State election was held on the first Monday in this month, the Democrats have carried the State, & all parties have paused to breathe before the presidential campaign in Nov. I care little about politics any way, but will never vote for a slave-holder & duelist. The Black Laws here, are much worse than in N.Y. The law supposes every black to be a fugitive from slavery, & imposes a fine for harbouring, comforting, or feeding any black person, who has not "free papers." Many have been severely lashed under these laws, yet the friend of the slave has often triumph

I lately read a letter from Judge Douglas, sent to Br Robison, also one from cousin Melinda, sent to Sophronia Marshbotte bringing good news respecting the church. I have also read a long letter from Br Calvin Barnet, which was like cool water to a thirsty soul. I hope Br C. will be encouraged to study for the ministry, to which I trust the Lord has called him. I will answer his letter as soon as health & leisure will permit. I will here acknowledge the receipt of a letter from home in which you rather scold me a little, but my bones are not broken by it yet, so fire away! As it respects your letter; it suited me much. you know I am fond of sorts, try it again, & give us a bigger one next time if possible. I have not indulged my rhyming propensity since I have been in Illinois. There is little poetry in this prairie scenery, especially if it rains all the time. Sloughs, & mud bottomed creeks are as far removed from the beautiful, or the sublime as you can well imagine; True, we have the "terrific" in our thunder storms, but there is little inspiration in all that. Among our most poetic objects are our large "Rareripe" Peaches, now in the height of their glory. Then we have wild Grapes, & black berries, Tomatoes, & Cat fish in short, all the substantials of food, with some luxuries. All these have sometimes tempted, not my imagination to sing, but my stomach to devour.

Yet, soberly, when walking musingly forth on a moonlit eve, I have felt the symptoms of rising inspiration; fancy has plumed herself for a flight, but then, just then, the keen bite of a prairie mosquito, has brought her back

to my cases, in this sober plodding world, & confounded, paper & something I hastened to look myself in my room where I might shut out the Holy Christians, (there is a new word for you)

I am not fit for a preacher, on a great many accounts, as want of success abundantly testifies. Sometimes I think I might be more useful with a help-mate to labour & pray with & for me, & cheer me in my loneliness. At other times it seems best to remain as I am. You remember poor old "Omar the son of Hazar", & his difficulty in finding a woman "wise as Ozbaide & beautiful as the Houries". This is not exactly my predicament, yet I have made no special search "you know", yet in all my wanderings to & fro in the earth, I must confess that I have not found a girl of suitable age, with a pious soul, a kind heart, & a strong mind in a strong body. You may wonder at all this, but you know I am bashful & rather inclined to slip through the world rather than should come in contact with some one. Call me not a misanthrope nor lunatic, as you mentally inquire what I have to match me with such qualifications as are mentioned. Nervous, Rickety-brained, Selfish as I am, I claim a right to secure a wife with a large healthy soul & a large healthy mind, in a large healthy body. If I can. But I shall probably get cheated. There it is again an over-excited fastidiousness, which will probably prevent my choosing at all. I wish you or Iris were here. Then I should not feel so lonesome. You could teach school, or sew, & do well at either. If you could sing in the choir, & teach Sabbath school. But maybe I am too fast, there is no telling where I am to be next year.

I shall not write any to Massa in this letter, as you know it would not be proper for her to read all I have written. Give her my love also Cousin Louisa & all the relations & friends. Pray for me, I suppose the object in your writing a letter directed especially to yourself was that you might look it up & keep it. You can do so, with this, or burn it up just as you please, but on no account let it be seen out of the family. (all the relations do not belong to the family).

Write immediately & tell Azel & Betsey to write as they have not written yet. It does me good to hear from all. I shall write to Azel next time.

Good Bye

Mary Ann Martin

Mary Ann Martin

Mrs William Martin
Baltimore
Maryland
U.S.

Charlestown
Aug 1st 54

I am astonished when I think how seldom we write to each other. I often resolve to reform in this thing, but my good resolutions fail here as well as elsewhere.

Father & Mother Palmer have gone east on a visit. You may see them at Coleville; perhaps not. Their relatives live in Exeter & Otsego. Otsego county.

I got a letter from them this week. They were then on the canal near Montezuma. They had a prosperous time on the lakes.

Our meeting house "Makes haste slow." I have $1.27 subscribed for my support this year-!!! Are you not afraid that I will get rich & proud? There is that which I fear worse: I fear that while I am laboring to attain food & clothes for my family, many precious souls on my field, will go down to perdition. "How shall they hear without a preacher." I sometimes regret that I know how to work as well as I do. Somebody would do it if I could not, & I might be doing studying & preaching. I do love the work of the ministry, although my heart shrinks from the responsibility. Who is sufficient for these things!?

Love to all who inquire. Write immediately

Sanford

Fanny Conn.

1984 Otego January 2d 1845.

No 2 City books

Arrived this day Jan. 2d One thousand eight hundred and Forty five at Otego and took possession of the house and farm of Henry P. Birdsall being the farm formerly of John Birdsall & Mary his wife, ~~who~~ (the parents of the said Henry P. & my wife Dana) who had a claim on said property for a maintenance during their natural lives — The said Henry P. having given me a deed of the west half of said farm with an lease of of the building on the other half with the garden, orchard &c during the natural lives of his father & mother upon condition that I maintain them during their natural lives —

This day took a lease of Henry P. Birdsall of his half of the above farm for one years beyond the lives of his father & mother —

Brought Two horses with me —

Feb. I and my wife went to Colesville gone one week —

25 March Went to Colesville with Oscar and was gone Ten & eleven days — and returned with One yoke of Oxen Six cows & a heifer —

in my absence Henry P. commenced plowing

2 Apr Henry Sowed our wheat & barley —

Since my return have been engaged in plowing &c

12 " Pease sowed —

10 May Planted corn —

15 May Sold a cow to Daniel Shipera at $17.50 —

Sold another cow to J. for 17 dol. am to have Two Dr. veal —

Took heifer to Nath. Birdsalls to pasture through the summer, he is to take his pay in beef in the fall —

18 Lords Day Rainy — did not attend meeting.

This has been rather a warm month. Therm has rose as high as 84° in the Shade — To day 6 O'C. 52° —

24 May – My birth day – finished planting potatoes on the hill ——

26 – " Droped some potatoes on the green sward in the meadow and covered them with Straw –

30 + 31 – Severe frost which distroyed the fruit – ——

5
30
1,50

5 June Self & wife went to Colesville – settled with several Gave Doct Guy – a Deed & received my money for my lot in Harpersville – ~~$~~ loaned the money to H. A. Okendorf – ($600,00.) –

11 Returned home –

12 – Had our own a fine Shower ~~this~~ evening

1 July – Had a fine rain for Two days past – wrote a letter to Mother Bancroft –

15 – Henry P. Birdsall – Discontinued board with us
Commenced cutting our grass – with

18 –

District No 13

We the Commissioners of Common Schools for the town of Coleville do hereby annex the following described Lands to District No 13. in said town Viz Beginning on West line of said District at the N.E. corner of Lands in possession of Benjamin Wellon thence a Westerly course along said Wellons North line to the N.W. corner of Edward Roberts Land thence a Northerly Course to the South line of Chauncey Blakslee Land thence an Easterly direction to the West Line of said District No 13. thence South along the West Line of said district to the place of Beginning including Widow Mannus Alpheus Judd Hesekiah Judd and Peter Judd Given under our hands this 6th day of November 1841

Elias Patrick
Town Clerk

Henry Martin
Henry Judd Sen
Sylvanus B. Merriman
Comrs of Common Schools

No 23 We the Commissioners of Common schools for the towns of Coleville & Bainbridge having met at Minoch the 6th day of Nov. 1841 do hereby annex Henry Love Joy together with the Land he resides on (being the same that said Love Joy lately purchased of Arthur M. Stevens) and Bounded on the East South and West by Lands owned by S. Dickinson and North by Lands owned by John Bennett To District No 23. in Coleville & Bainbridge

Given under our hands this 6th day of Nov 1841

Elias Patrick
Town Clerk

Henry Martin
Henry Judd sen
Sylvanus B Merriman
Ira Hyde
Elijah Hyde
Albert Pratt
Commissioners of Common Schools

We the subscribers Trustees of School District No 17 in the Town of Bainbridge Consent to the above alteration of our School District Oct 1841 Josiah Stevens

No. 11 At a meeting of the Commissioners of Common Schools of the Town of Colesville & Chenango at the house of Hurd & Brownson in the Town of Colesville on the Seventeenth day of May in the Year 1842. the following Commissioners were present (viz) Henry Hurd Jun Harlow Humaston and John D. Bancroft from Colesville and Joseph Carmon & William P. Pope from Chenango

It appearing that due notice of the time and place of this meeting was given to all the Commissioners the persons present formed a board. Resolved. That a new District be formed to consist of a part of District No 5 in Colesville and an undistributed part of the Town of Chenango taking Lots No 69. 70 81. 82. 91. 92. 93. 106. 107 108 in Franklin Patent which said New District shall be made part District No Eleven in the Town of Colesville and part District No 39 in the Town of Chenango and shall be bounded as follows said part in the Town of Colesville is bounded on the North by the North line of said Town and North line of Lots No. 675 in Gorman patent and North line of John McDickinsons farm East by the East line of the Thousand Acres so called in Watts patent South by the South line of Thousand Acres aforesaid patent and the South line of Lots No 16. 15 and the part of 14 owned by Ezekiel Andrews on said patent and on the West by the West line of Ezekiel Andrews Calvin Rupel and H. S. Brownsons farms

John D. Bancroft } Commissioners of Colesville
Henry Hurd Jun
Harlow Humaston
Elias Patrick } Commissioners of Chenango
Sam Clark
Joseph Carmon
W. P. Pope

We hereby consent to the alteration made in District No 5 in Colesville Dated at Colesville May 15th 1842 by order of which the annexed is a copy

Samuel Andrews

Sub Rosa

1792

Tuscaloosa Sept 1st 1845

Dear Mary

Yours of July 31st came to hand on the 11th ult. You make too much of the trifling contents of that little box. Your letter did me much good. In imagination I saw the deer in the "old park" & shared in the excitement of the scene; I saw Lois bounding away at the old loom, while the chickens in lengthening row, stretch themselves in the new stair-room; the cows too, with old Red turned out to fatten; the mixed grey wool, with Mother treading & sweating at the "big wheel", all stand out in company with that celebration, its cold collation, fine speaking, music & banners. I am interested in all these. I have not power to spread out the scenes around me, so as to interest you much, therefore shall not try

I receive from Home Mis. Soc'y $60.
Subscribed here — 100.

As to what I need most: it is hard for me that I should trouble you with my wants after all you have done for me. (I mean you all, of course) But as the Master whom I try to serve, owns all this world, I hope to receive from him by some means, a horse, saddle & bridle, a good warm cloak to shield me from the prairie winds.

a pair of boots (size 7½) a vest & pantaloons, silk handkerchief &c. &c.

About the sending of a box: I think it would be rather hazardous, unless sent in the care of some one coming to Chicago. Once safely lodged in the storehouse there, I could get it without much trouble. About your coming, I know not what to write. If you should come, & afterwards regret it, I should reproach myself with being the cause of your sorrow. I need your company, watch-care, & advice as a brother. The west needs your influence, as a bold, active christian; hundreds of ignorant children need your aid as an instructor. Thousands of straggling, wandering urchins call on you to come & gather them into the S. School & point them to the Saviour who died for them. You are needed much there but more here. You will not get rich by coming, but you may do good. You will not starve if you trust in God. If you come, persuade Lois to come with you. This is a better country to live in than N. Y.

George was here a few days since & told me that he had rec'd a line from the east. I asked him if he intended to answer it, & he talked on another subject.

Mason City is a pleasant town but the schools are of no account, & my children are growing up in ignorance. A tax has been voted to build a new school house, & then & then after a while things will be better in respect to schools here.

Our new R.R. is doing a heavy business & we are brought into communication by rail & telegraph with the rest of the world.

Betsey writes that the cars run to Harpursville. Strange is it not.

Well, what next? I am glad for Harpursville & hope the church will wake up, & grow & keep on growing & working till the Master comes. Enterprising men in these days make a dead & burial town, & without enterprising men a church cannot flourish.

You know I mean men who attempt great things for God, & expect great things from God.

There are prospered christians whose enterprise all finds a selfish channel & who are a curse to any church.

Since I came here, I have divided my time with other places.

I have now tendered my resignation to take effect April 1st. So that they can get a preacher all the time, as their altered circumstances now demand. Who their next preacher will be I cannot tell. If they call me I expect to obey the call.

There is much destitution all around us, & we have great need to pray the Lord of the Harvest, to send forth laborers into His harvest, for the harvest is great & the laborers are few.

If I were a diocesan Bishop with six good preachers at my bidding, I could appoint them good places immediately, just around me, in fields where I am personally acquainted. And now commending you to God & the word of His Grace I must say Farewell.

My Family join in Love

Pray for us. Remember us to inquiring friends. Good bye

Your Affectionate Brother in the flesh & in the Lord, S. S. Martin

At that point I intend to dine on Boiled Ham Shank with Green Beets, roots & tops, with potatoes, things they sell at $1,90 per box

After dinner we had a lump of Maple Sugar, all round, just to remember old times by. By the way, What is the price, per hundred of Maple Sugar at N.?

I sometimes think of sending for a barrell: I look a light meal as Palmer & I have an attack of diarrhoea today. You speak of high prices. Well there are prices of some of the things we live on.

Flour $6,00 late 20,00
Butter ,20 and ,25 late ,35 & ,40
Dried Apples ,15 Chees 25 and 28
Corn Meal 1,25 per cwt.
Hams ,20, Sides & Shoulders ,15
Coffee ,33. Tea, Japan 1,70

Common Labor is 2,00 per day, & man & team 5,00 with board

We have a hard time getting along so as to make the two ends of the year come together, without being to the expense of sending the children to school away from home, or music lessons at home.

When I return, I will take my Journal of an old party, 5 miles out, at 2 P.M.

It is now 5 o'clock P.M. & I have been too unwell to do any work today. Grace still is only a billious attack aggravated by a slight cold. Palmer has gone for a drive with the wagon; Myra has been trying to do the ironing, but has lacked ability for it.

I met Mr Kayes of Hamilton at Chicago at the anniversaries. He spoke of Thos. kindly & appreciatingly, but regretted that his usefulness was hindered by those old affairs of which you spoke. I think it should be settled & forgotten.

Thos. is a noble man, but only a man, & so could not be always right & of altogether right in the matters that keep him from working with the church. Others may not see it in the same light. If it has no stubborn will, or prejudice in the way of a reconciliation, others may have & it is a blessed thing to forgive.

I have forgotten all the facts of the case, though Ts gave them to me, or at least part of them. So that I understood them at the time of the trial last. Don't let the old Mother church go down if prayers & sacrifices can save her. Write soon. Pray for us. Farewell, Sanford

He seems to enjoy religion — I g. I think a true Christian.

I am about to get married. I.E. when the Spirit moves me. I know a fine girl, — Nothing extra. plain good sense — no education, — No blandishments — no deceit. — no pretence, not a red cent. — good form — fine head phrenologically, — good temper — brimfull of love, — and best of all an humble christian. Well? What about it? I shall not tell the rest ~~that~~ at present.

I do not know where I shall go another year. I mean to apply for the appointment as an itinerant in this county.

Dr Marsh is getting a large practice, & we need another Botanic in this county. I wish Dr Nobles or some other good Baptist Dr would come in just now. There is an opening for a faithful practitioner. If Fred was a doctor he might do much good here, & get rich besides. Does he not sometime feel it to be his duty to study for the Ministry? Where is Calvin Carriel?

Tell Aget to write me a line if he loves me, — I have sent a letter to Steve, Hopefier for me. Oh! how I want to see you all. Love to all the friends.

I wish father would write me a long letter. It would hinder him about 4 weeks to come & see me, & look at the country. I wish he could come this fall.

Paid 10

Miss C. Martin
Colesville
Broome
N.Y.

Knowville
Oct 6th

Dear Mary

The friends from Broome are well, except Sister Robinson is complaining of a cold & bilious attack. She is getting better.

It is a cold time in Religion. Pray for us, especially for me, I know you do, I feel it, & it strengthens me.

P.S. Excuse this nervous scroll, & keep it safe Rosa

Farewell. Sanford.

1784

Lamoille Apr. 26 — 47.

Dear Sister.

Yours of the 19th inst. has just come to hand: & we are highly pleased, with its spicy, circumstantial contents. — We are well. — Flora 7mo. old tomorrow & weighs 14lb gross. She is altogether a marvel, so small so healthy & plump, — so sprightly, — so sweet-t-t-t. You know the old adage about the crow's sagacious judgment, on the color of her fledgellings. &c &c.

I was some sorry, & some glad to hear of the mob in old No 12. The same thing was over tried on the Anti Masons there, if I remember right, but it did not crush them. In former days Abolitionists were mobed in the west. However we kept dark & said nothing (about the eggs I mean) for every stale egg thrown by the mob hatched a Liberty chicken. The mobocrats saw how it worked after a while & stopped out of spite.

Now I was sorry to hear that the well remembered, almost sacred, old school house had been that treated.

I send a sample of calico from two dresses of Lucy's bought for Flora today, also one for Anna

I was sorry to hear that any of the old neighbors had disgraced themselves by getting up a riot in an abolition meeting. Wonder if they ever heard of Dame Partington & her broom. I was glad to hear that they managed to rate themselves of their spent up chivalry without any material danger to themselves or Gov. Jackson.

"'Is strange what pride some various stuff
In foemen worthy of their steel,"

But ~~story~~ aside, — I was glad to hear of the mob when I thought of the mighty impetus it must give the cause. Don't prosecute them. It will divert public opinion. But go on with your meetings, talk argue, debate, spread the truth, be fearless, be Christ like, The Truth must prevail. Stick to the One idea. It is the Idea of the age, Liberty! What a glorious watchword. There are other great questions in the political world, but none so great as this. The man who stops now to argue Free Trade or any other petty question of the kind, is like him who finding a lion intrenched in his parlor calls in his neighbors to assist in his

1847 PC-2579

extermination wishes each man to engage to kill all the noxious vermin on the premises. One wishes to kill the dogs, & another the cats, a third hates the rats & mice, & a fourth will not lift a finger unless all the snake are included. So while the matter is debated the lion is feasting on the children. My word is, Kill the Lion First. Men will agree to that, if they are not puzzled with other questions. All can understand the few first sentences of the Declaration of independence, but all cannot understand about tariffs & banks.

Our election for Delegates to the Convention to revise the Constitution, has just passed. We are beaten in this county but about 40 votes, yet both Whigs & Democrats united against us.

Our Candidate is a brother of the murdered Lovejoy.

The vote in this precinct stood 70 Liberty 18 Democrat 13 Whig.

But what if the Liberty vote never arrives to a majority?

No matter, I say. If we drive the other parties to elect men who will abolish Slavery.

Don't forget that the devil carried the first missionary to Rome, & supported him there two whole years.
Of course he would have done nothing if the church had been inactive.
So let the friends of the slave be up & doing. & He who controls the wrath of men & Devils, will will bind all

Sunnyside Ohio
Apr 28/49

Wm Fairchild
Lorenzo Fairchild
Wm Fairchild

their strength to the car of reform. & however much it may be against their will they shall help to swell its onward momentum till "Liberty shall be proclaimed through all the land, to all the inhabitants thereof." We are to move this week, only a mile or so, however, yet I dread the job. Love to all. Sanford.

Rangerfield May 23d 1847.

Dear Nephew

I recieved yours last night I am happy to hear you are enjoying yourself as well as you are and progressing in your studies you say that you are in the old stem taking yet I say here I am on this old mountain yet all alone comparatively speaking not much a going on but hard labour one in awhile go off 3 or 4 miles to meeting or something of that time. I commenced work the day you left and have followed it up pretty well ever since consequently I have not visited quite as much as I talked of. I get rather lone some once in a while but I clear up and go to work full sivery. I wish once in a while I could be down there a little while and see the folks if nothing else. The weather has been very warm and dry the ground and grass has suffered much for the want of rain till late. It has threatened rain two or three days rained some yesterday commenced about 2 o clock rained most of the time since till this morning 10. or 11. o clock. The weather previous to the warm & dry was very wet cold and backward could not do any thing hardly consequently are rather back-ward about our springs work here on the hill. our plum trees are white with blossoms apple trees & cherry trees are beginning to blow fast. I am digging into it hard to get done platting seat to rest and visit. I have got corn corn planted and sowing most done

have got a few potatoes to plant small piece to plow for Buckwheat. Have been to Newell Davids once that is about all my visiting. Mother has been at Uncle Rufs a week We are all in ~~great~~ usual health write send our respects Old Brownard and Eliza says give their respects to all inquiring friends. We found your Knife & Handkerchief soon after you left Come up home by make us a visit and get them, tell Henry and Warren I say they must come up do make me a visit. Give my love to all inquiring friends.

I can think of nothing more of importance to mention now

You must excuse these mistakes for I am in something of a hurry to go to meeting. Please write again as soon as convenient, and those verses in your next if you have not yet them.

Yours Truly
B. D. Bancroft

Mr. W. M. C. Bancroft.

N.B. E.G. is not at home to work so I am alone except what I do days.

1847 May the 29 To the Honorable
John Bancroft in Otsego Village I must
inform you that we are all well and neighbors
pen Henry Olendorf lays on the point of death
Hopeing this few lines will find you and family
well, now I would say to you that your cunning
machean is redy and was redy some time ago
Excepting the nails to put on the strap I
had to go to Binghamton and got them and
it is now Redy and in a few days Hav it to Mr
Dowds if it lies in my power if team can be had
if not you drive up, I suppose you hav heard that
I shav Bublickly and Openly come out a gor
m abolishanist with grad manny Otheers Elder
Erl he is a warm one 62 boats went in the Balit
Box last town meating and now let us hold fast
to our indeynity an til we gane the Victory an
till Slavery and Oppression is Dun away the
Lord help

John [illegible]

Coles Mill

John Bancroft
Otsego Hill County
Otsego S New York

1359

South Bainbridge Sept. 28th 1846

Mr. Isaac Williams

Dear Sir

Please Credit Ransom Shepherd

Ransom Shepherd Dr.

45. Apr.	To 6 days work of team	6/	$4.50
	To Henry & Team pulling Stumps	3/	.37½
	To 7 lb beal at 3c		.21
	To Salts		.06
	To 3 bu. barley	4/	1.50
	To 1½ Rye	4/	.75
	To 9 lb Buckwheat flour	3 cts	.27
	To 12 lb Soap grease	6 cts	.72
	To 12 bu of Rye Straw	1 cts	.13
	To hay small load in Swale		.63
	To wood on the river		.37½
	To wood on creek		.18
	To Two Jugs		.50
	To Self & Oscar helped to gather potatoes		.63
	To 50 lb hay by Oscar		.20
	To hay by Delos		
	To 1½ drag by Oscar & Team	10/	1.87½
	To ½ da Oscar & hors cult. corn	6/	.75
	To 2 bu. Corn at the time of having the barley & rye above	4/	1.13
30 June	To horse to plow out corn		.19
	To pasturing cow 5 wks	2/	1.25
			16.23
1846.	To use of wagon & horse sundry times agreed		1.53
			$17.76

Rec payment

By his ct.

6 Dec.

Otego Nov. 3. 47

Mr Daniel Green

Sir, according to your request I write to let you know that we have heard from Albert Shepherd — he went to Spring ~~Milwaukee~~ prairie Walworth Co Wisconsin — has been at work for a mr. Israel Williams at Farming — Mr Williams says he has been very steady and saved his wages ~~Albert wrote to his~~ and has lately married a very respectable girl, by name of Catherine Ham — and has taken a school for this winter — Albert has written to his Mother, to the same effect

John L. Barnes

Mr Daniel Green

Mr Daniel Green Esq. Otego Otsego Co N.Y.

Edward P Crane

New York June 3d 1848

June 3, 1848

Dear Cousin
Wm Oscar B

I rec.d your favor and while I offer sincere thanks for it, I hope you will allow me to apologize for my negligence in acknowledging its receipt. I had by another source rec.d advices of the death of your brother, which you can well imagine, I was struck with surprise and sorrow, but it would be very inconsiderate to reopen, even by sympathy, the wound which time and resignation have probably in a measure closed.

You may have heard of the death of Mr Stephen Currie which took place, if I recollect aright, on Saturday the 15th of April 1848; if so you were not much surprised, probably, for I believe Consumption had taken hold of him before you were here. His wife and daughters have given up housekeeping and taken board with Mrs Lyons 798 Greenwich st; at present they are in good health. Ellen & Elizabeth continue teaching in 13th street though the former has fears that, on account of weak lungs, she will be obliged to abandon that profession. Aunt Matilda came here from Claverack 25th April and is here now. Sarah went from here (where she has been spending the winter) to Claverack on Friday, May 12th. We commenced moving from our old house (No 1 Bethune) to the one we now occupy (No 21 Chelsea Cottages 24th st) on Thursday April 27th and finished the next day. After the delirium of moving we found ourselves ensconced in a very pleasant and convenient house, near Pa's place of business but considerably farther from the University, to and from which I am obliged to walk 5 times a week. Henry has left Albany is now settled here with Father. Hiram is also connected with the same business. I am within a fortnight of the close of the College year

after which I have a vacation of 3 months. We are now reading Horace and Xenophon's Memorabilia of Socrates" together with Geometry, Arnold's Greek and Latin Prose Composition. We have completed the oration of Cicero for Cluentius, such extracts of ~~Leg~~ Livy as are found in Lincoln's edition, 9 or 10 books of the Odyssey and Loomis' treatise on Algebra). I had forgotten when in writing matters to inform you of the arrival of Aunt Eleanor (Mrs Miller) and son; they have been with us a short time and will leave next Monday. I am glad to hear you have good educational advantages and hope your health will permit you to avail yourself of them. It would give me pleasure to have you enter the University ~~this~~ next year. Candidates are examined on the Tuesday preceding the 3d Wednesday in September when the term commences.

We have recd news this morning of the ratification of the treaty between the United States and Mexico. You will undoubtedly be as much ~~pleased~~ pleased as ourselves at this issue of the tedious negotiations between the two republics. General Scott passed thro' this city last week and was well received; his trial is to take place, I believe, at Frederick Md. I have not time to speak particularly of the anniversaries which you have found from the religious papers, have been peculiarly interesting. Aunts Matilda & Eleanor with our own family unite in sending our respects and best wishes to yourself and your parents. If you would favor me with another communication I will endeavor to be more prompt in answering it.

Your affectionate cousin

Edward P. Crane

P.S. Mother wishes me to say that Thomas and William will not leave home as they are now in a very good school.

E. P. C.

Lamoille Nov. 4th 1848, Sat Morn

Dear Sister Clora

Since I wrote to Irene I have been very sick. The Chills came back on Monday & I have been confined to the house by them ever since. They make me dreadful sick when they come, which is every other day now. The day I wrote Irene's letter I composed an Acrostic for you. That it has Merit I am not vain enough to suppose

Cool blow the Autumn winds,
Long the Storm cry,
Oft for long-thought-of friends,
Rises a Sigh.—
A dream of the fleeting past.
All fresh, & green,
Memory brings at last.
Across the dull scene.—
Now let the Storm rattle,
~~Darker~~ & hoarser,
As each King of the air battle,
Mounts his wind courser.—
A calm, a sweet, & hallowed joy.
Rises in the wandering boy
Though far from home, & ~~the~~ most dear.
In fancy, they are facing near.
Nearer, than all around thats dear.

It possesses no Merit of any kind. Yet perhaps you will receive it kindly, as it comes from Sanford.

It has been a very rainy week. Yesterday it showed till the flecy covering was 4 or 5 inches deep; in the night it rained & the snow is all gone. Myra & the children keep although my sickness throws a very heavy burden on M. She does the work out doors, & in the house too, which makes it very hard for her.

1228

Miss Clara A. Martin.

Mon

Eld. Miller — Dear Sir. There is an anecdote of the Celebrated Doct. Johnson of England "He lent his friend some money and from that time his friend did not dispute him in conversation but said yes, yes to every thing which made their conversation very insipid at length Johnson inquired "Pay me or dispute" —

Now sir, I say pay me or visit me — when I lent you money I never dreamt that your ability to pay or not to pay would make any difference as to the frequency of your visits I should have made you a visit before this had I known where to find you — I understand via you brother that you son has moved to McDonough and that you are with him in Skaneateles —

And now for our Delays — we are usual health Oscar is at Franklinville I expect to go after him next Tuesday — Vacation Two weeks — when Laura will take her things with her & spend the winter with him If all is well. I expect to sell or rent my place — and wish to find some business for the future — Shall probably spend the winter in some agency — should be glad to obtain a light covered waggon — will you be so good as to come and see me — and see if we can make some arrangement with your brother

Eld. John Miller

Bullsmith Nov 10th 1848

#1924

Dear Brother

I have commenced an
Journal or the delight I take to
Hear of your welfare and
I wish you to write to me
more often than you do
I have not heard from you since
I left Lodi I am very
anxious to hear from you
and desire a letter and

gave her consent but says she has
advised till she does not know how to
advise any more She wishes you and
Henry to consult your own interest
and comfort without any special reference
to them further than your engagements
require I found father quite uncom-
fortable with his hand it has been much
worse for a few days otherwise they
were well as usual Mille and
Catharine are both quite dull to-day
after their cold and uncomfortable ride.
Mr Miller says the Elder's son has
moved to Macdonough. If I have not
forgotten the name he lives in Murray
settlement thinks the Elder is with him
or at Skeneatelas. And now for a word
of advice. In arranging your business I
wish you both to eye the golden rule

I hope a change of circumstances may
promote the happiness of yourselves and
families but do not promise yourselves
too much from it. Our changes are much
like the journeyings of Israel often only from
one wilderness to another Every situation
has enough of trial that ought to make
us wish for a better country and while
you will be sure to find your share of
troubles I wish you not to over rate them
nor to under rate your mercies but while
you have a few things to try your submission
I wish you to see that you have
many for which to give thanks
Accept my best wishes for your present
comfort and future well being Farewell

J. J. Bancroft Wm H. Birdsall

Tell Key you gave me your trunk was it the night

Del. Lit. Inst. Feb 4th 1849

Dear Parents

I was thinking yesterday how glad I should be to see you, or hear from you, & judging you by myself, I concluded to write to you as soon as I could possibly get an opportunity. Yesterday in the A. A. I was busily engaged in writing quite a long composition for, as my room-mate is Editor this week, he thinks that I must give him one. So that with writing & going down to Esq Porters with Mr Here to get a piano, & various other little things I was not able to write any yesterday A.M., & in the P.M. I was obliged to go & look up some wood, which I finally got at Mr Waters' store, paying at the rate of 12/- per cord for 4 ft wood, & then I was obliged to obtain a horse & wagon to draw it over here, then to saw up enough to last till next Saturday, So that finally I did not make out even to begin a letter yesterday, & as I was very anxious to go to the Bible class at Mr Herr's last evening I thought I would postpone the letter till day before daylight this morning, but now that I have got at it I am afraid that there will not be anything very interesting. We have very changeable weather here nowadays I assure you, one day it will be very warm & the next day perhaps it will be very cold indeed, one day it will rain & the next either hail, or else snow & blow as if it was seeing how much it could do, & through the means of its changeableness or something else I have caught a very bad cold or rather a bad cold as caught me. I have had the worst cough for a few days back that I ever recollect of having. It was not a hoarse, heavy cough such as I have been used to having, but a kind of dry hacking cough that seemed as though it would tear my throat all raw, but it is better now, & I think that I feel about as well now as I have any time this term. I have been under the necessity of giving up my Geometry, but go into Mr Herrs Astronomy lectures in its stead, which are very interesting & I think very useful. But I must go to breakfast so I must close my pen for the present.—

Sabbath Afternoon. I have just returned from supper & now I again take my pen in order to finish my letter. This P.M. I have heard a sermon preached by a Mr Chittendon an agent for the American Bible Society, from John 5th 39th "Search the Scriptures for in them ye think ye have eternal: And they are they which testify of me". I thought he preached a very good begging sermon, but I have heard since that he preaches the same sermon every where he goes so do not think so much of it now. I really wish you could attend one of the meetings of the Bible class at Mr Herr's; you cant think how interesting he will make them. In the course of his exposition's last evening the question of slavery happened to be brought up, & he gave us his views on this subject quite largely; he appears to think that a man who has a knowledge of the Bible can never be enslaved, but I have not got time nor space enough to give you his views, but I was very much interested in them. He also said that he never saw a man that sold Ardent Spirits, that he considered to be a christian. I should be glad to have you come up as soon as you can, for I am nearly out of clean clothes & when you do come up I want you to be sure an bring me a cushion as I am afraid I shall wear the ~~seat~~ of my clothes all out on these hard chairs, & I should like to have you bring one of our chairs also as they are so much easier to set in, & also a patent water pail as the water tastes so horrid bad from a tin one, & also a straw bed tick as the one I have got is a very poor one. I was so fortunate as to find one the fore part of this term, which I used till a few days ago, when I was obliged to give it up. We expect a man here in about a fortnight with a large apparatus to deliver a course of lectures on ~~Dictonomy~~ Chemistry &c. Mr Herr says it will be a better opportunity for us than is afforded at most of the colleges in the United States. I think that I get along as well with my studies as I could expect under my circumstances, I think I can see that I have gained a good in the Languages since the commencemat of this term. I want you should be sure & fetch up some cough drops if you can make any. You must excuse my mistakes as I have had no time to copy it. I have wrote very fast.

Your Affectionate Son

W. L. B. Bancroft

W. L. B. Bancroft

Franklin Acad. Dec. 23d/48

Dear Parents. of Wm. Oscar B.

As it is Saturday & I have a chance for a short breathing spell, I thought that I would improve the opportunity by writing a few lines to you. I some expected to receive a letter from you before this time but as I have not I have concluded that there has not anything very wonderful happened as yet. After I first got here it was quite rainy, & very unpleasant getting about for a number of days, & then it came off warm & pleasant almost like summer so that the boys played ball every day for some time, but last wednesday night it commenced snowing & snowed a little all day thursday but not so as to jam a great deal till last thursday night, & yesterday it snowed & blowed so all day that they did not have any exercises last night, but to day the sun comes out warm & pleasant again, & I am afraid the sleighing won't last long. There is a great number of scholars here this term. There is over 50 young ladies attending the school this term. Yesterday morning there was some 8 or 10 cutters engaged in transporting the young ladies to the school & it made quite a lively time of it; the cutters flying backwards & forwards through the deep snow with the horses upon the jump & the snow flying in every direction, & last night they had a two horse sleigh & took with a long box which they would stuff as full as it could hold. Mr Converse took it upon himself to be chief manager, & he appeared to be in his element I assure you. The prospect of such good sleighing has made me rather homesick, & as school does not keep on New Year's day which comes a week from next monday, if I felt able to hire a horse I should be tempted to drive down home on friday night after school & so stay till monday, but as I don't see much prospect of bringing that about I want you to come up as soon as you can. I have been without pills for about a week, & I am afraid I shall get to be bad off if I go without much longer. You probably recollect of my speaking about belonging to the Washterburian Society & of seeing their papers last term. It is a going on quite prosperous this term & Mr Rice has taken it into his head to take quite an interest in its concerns & has suggested to some of the members that it would be best to have a library. He says that he never knew a "Literary Society"

do that I can come, but if it would not make any difference with you perhaps you might wait till Saturday before you come, for if I come I mean to be there some time Friday night. If you do not come next week I wish you to stand a great rubbish & proper without they had a Library. I supposed it till I see that all the rest were bent upon having one & now I suppose that I shall have to give something or be considered stingy. If you think that it is best I should like to have you fetch along some suitable book when you come up. I hardly know whether we have anything which is suitable or not, I thought some about that small work called "Goods Book of Nature" but I will leave that entirely to you. I always have hated to spare any of my books, but I don't know but I ought to now. You must forgive the manner in which this letter is written as there is so much noise a going on, that my head is completely confused, & I have not time to copy it. You can't have no idea how I have been drove this term. My poor head ain't strong enough nor quick enough to get along as others do without study. I have had to work every night this term till after 10 o'clock, & generally every morning before daylight, & all day beside. I have not looked in to a book to read a page unless it was a little while on Saturday or Sunday this term except sometimes a little while ~~when~~ I have had to wait a little for a meal at my boarding place. My last recitation for the day ends at ½ past 3; then I study my Greek Reader lesson till prayers; then by the time I can go & get my supper & get back again it is dark, I then study Greek till 9 o'clock; when I go & look out my Virgil lesson with one of my classmates which takes till about 9½ after; then study one of my Grammar lessons or Geometry till bed time. In the morning I study different things till breakfast time, after breakfast I generally get about an hour before prayers to study Greek. After prayers I have an hour to get my Latin Grammar lesson & look over my Virgil, when I recite my Virgil lesson & immediately after a Latin Grammar lesson. Then I have from 11 till 12 & from 1 till ½ after 1 to finish my Greek Reader lesson & get my Greek Grammar, after I recite them I have an hour to study my Geometry & C how hard I have to study that hour if I succeed in getting all the lesson which I do not always make out to do. In speaking about the Library I forgot to mention that Mr Herr has promised to give quite a number of books, & I have just been to see a couple of books which one of the students has just been buying, which cost 33½. — Hiram Smith & Birdsall Cook attend school here. Yours with affection

W. C. & L. B. Bancroft.

W. C. Bancroft

The first recitation after writing with other Commerce & is may be pleasant like to go to Coventry next Friday if it proves fair weather & he can get a horse but I hardly think I can give

Write

Youngstown Feb. 7th 49.

Carus Amicus

Thy long desired & long expected epistle at length arrived at our city bringing with it many evidence of the sweetness of friendly intercourse & reminding me of my pleasant hours spent in forming a friendly alliance with yourself which has continued uninterrupted by a single quarrel or misunderstanding from the time your parents first brought a little, lively, whiteheaded stranger into our midst, who soon came to be known by the operation of the law of mutual attraction which makes not only this world we live on continue its wonted revolutions & all nature to move on with a uniform & steady pace but also makes "birds of a feather flock together." Until the present time our acquaintance has continued under circumstances pleasant to be remembered & for my part I am willing to esteem the relation we stand in to each other that of friendship pure & lasting as the mind. This is not to be done with every acquaintance as the good old injunctions of spellingbook memory teach but we must be careful to choose our friends from the wise & the good. I do not mean to blame you for not writing sooner your excuses are perfectly reasonable & I would be glad to plead similar ones for my neglect to many of my friends but as we are somewhat in the same situation we can perfectly appreciate each other's difficulties in the way of keeping up a more lively correspondence which I would be glad to do If I am not tiring you by sending you epistles too dull & commonplace to give you any pleasure. I am actively engaged in the duties of my school things are

moving on very agreeably with me for the most part but I have rather a difficult school to manage exactly to my notion yet I have no serious trouble with it the greatest fault of my scholars is their heedlessness & this I suppose is common to all boys & girls & is no more than I & Ed. Harper & Levy & Augustus & the rest of the gang were once guilty of. My time is so busily employed that I have no time to devote to study during the day & what little I get in the evenings will not help me far up the mountain of science for I believe it ~~to~~ be a mountain; we have no hills in this country. If it were right to wish for any thing that we have not I could wish that I were going to school with you & could have the benefit of living instructors & companions in the pleasant but laborious task of getting a good education. How are you getting along in your ies? what do you meet with ~~of~~ that very much interests you what are your prospects & designs about doing good & enjoying life. For my own part I can not say I have any particular design for the future in regard to my mode of getting a living or my business in life but my aim is to try to improve the present ~~age~~ as well as I can & follow the leadings of Providence. As to enjoying life I firmly believe there is no happiness except in Religion & I believe that with in this the next thing to perfect happiness may be enjoyed even here, The Baptists have lately held a meeting here in which they have by the help of the Lord ~~of the means made~~ established a church of 16 converts & proselytes. Rev Mr Miles & Mr Young from Jersey Shore conducted the meeting. Rev. Mr Young once in his boyhood he told me held a protracted meeting on Cole's Hill or Martin's hill - perhaps you know him he is a good man I believe I have become acquainted with him & esteem & love him very much - From your Friend George R. Vasbury.

1794

Lamoille Nov 8th 1848.

Dear Sister

It was with the greatest pleasure that I rec'd yours. Its perusal filled me with joy. Good news from a far country is truly refreshing. May the Lord bless his cause & people in Colesville is still my prayer.

My health is so good that I have been out at work around my house & stable, fixing for winter. Sue, I am not fit to be out door a minute, & it is not prudent for me to work so, but winter is coming & my house is not banked up. I have no shelter for my horse & cow. No wood drawn, no, no, "nothing" ready for cold weather, but it has come. There is about two inches of snow that fell last night, & the ground is frozen.

I fixed up a little batch of trifles for, what we used to call the "Little Girls." Please distribute as directed. Irene's letter was finished before I thought of an acrostic, or I would have put one into her's. It will be her turn next time. My children are asleep, & Mira has gone out this evening to a Temperance Meeting.

I am sorry to hear of the sickness & death of our old friends & relations. Give my love especially to the afflicted. I expect to be rather poorly all winter, if I live so long. Here comes Myra, & my page is full. Good night.

Sanford

Lanville Ills
Nov 15 - 1848

10

Miss. Mary A. Martin.
Colesville
Broome Co
N.Y.

1786

Farmville Feb 5th 1786

Dear Sister

We are all tolerably well. It is washing day & Nuna is tired. I have a very sore mouth caused by a cold & cough. I have written, written & written to different members of the family but cannot get a reply. I've half a mind to write to you to give me news of all. If it is in my power I will do it. If it is not I have that you will excuse. This may be too lengthy. I ask pardon. But you can hardly imagine how long the time has seemed to your sick deserting sister since he heard a cheering voice from home. My foot is nearly well. It seems entirely healed, but by being much exposed to the cold, it is very tender & even sore. Mr Lerebee preaches for us one half of the time. There is no news worth the letting of the mind. You know so little of me, & my family etc, I do not know whether to begin to write about ourselves. Once my features were familiar to you, but time aided by the sun & storms of Illinois have wrought changes on my person, that you little dream of. People generally now think complexioned here. I never was light you know.

George has had a turn of Rheumatism we think. His lower limbs were lame, & sore, so that for two days he seemed to find no rest, & he asked a great deal from pain. He goes out now; travels, in his way, all about the house, climbs up by chairs, &c. We have had a dreadful severe winter, for which I was poorly prepared, owing to my sickness. It has been a dark time, but the kindness of our friends has relieved our most pressing wants so that we get along after a fashion. I have nothing to feed my poor cow, & nothing to buy with; but I shall get it somehow I hope. I am tired & sleepy, so good.

Feb 23rd. Evening. Flora has been improving the left hand margin when no one saw her, trying to do as father does. Well; perhaps, those little unmeaning marks will give an additional interest to this letter, bringing before your minds eye her little image more distinctly than I could draw it in words. She is not a bad girl, but rather imitative, & of course falls into a mistake sometimes. You know my mental constitution so well that you need not be told that I am happy in the bosom of my little family. & think that I am grateful to our Heavenly Father for having ordained "That a man shall

leave his father, & his Mother, & cleave unto his wife, & they twain shall become one flesh." How any one can desire a childless union, I am at a loss to tell. It is very responsible work to train up children, but who could bear to be without them.
I may like to see a great deal of trouble from my little girl, & boy with their successors, but it will not change the fact which I most firmly believe. That it is according to the design of Infinite Wisdom, hence a duty, for all to marry, & rear children. Exceptions there are to all rules, but they do not destroy the rule. Your mind will turn to the fable, of the Fox which lost his tail in the trap, & then wished all his companions to cut off theirs. I am soberly in earnest, & if you will read what God has revealed in his written word & in His works of creation you will be convinced, if you are not already.
We rec'd a letter from Knoxville today. Folks all well. Alexander is going to California. I have been wooing the muse, as verse writers say, & shall send you a slip enclosed in this, & more next time if I do not forget it. It is thawing now, very fast. I have just skinned my 8th coon. It rains, & Myra could not go to singing school tonight. She has bad cold sores on her lips & nose. Good night. Sanford

Miss. Mary A. Martin
Colesville
Broome Co
N. Y.

Franklin Academy Mar 3d
1849

Dear Parents

As the time has nearly arrived for the close of the winter term, I thought I would improve this opportunity of writing a few lines to you. I have but very little time to write I assure you & I hope you will excuse my writing if it is not as good as you would like to have. Mr Smith is now engaged in writing a dialogue in which I rather expect to have to take a part & if I do, I shall have to work very hard to learn it. It is a very good one according to my opinion. I have also to learn another piece which I have only commenced. I commenced reciting in Chemistry last week with the class which has studied it all the term & is now reviewing it, & although I have never studied it I think without bragging that I recite as well as any in the class. Last Thursday I disagreed with Mr Converse on one point, & on referring it to Prof Silliman, he decided that I was right. The Chemistry lectures are kept up almost every evening in the week, but I don't know but I am going to spoil my eyes by looking so intently where there is so many bright lights. They are most of them very interesting and I have learned a good many things that I never knew before. We have the Magnetic Telegraph in operation last night. I would like to have you bring up my little pocket compass when you come so that I can have it charged over again as I think its magnetic powers have been seriously impaired. I had a very short note last Thursday from John Wilkinson, which was quite unexpected. He said he come very near going back with Young me, & showed it if he had not met one of the students who showed him the ways my son. I want you should bring that small leather trunk & the carpet bag. Mr Herr's child has been so sick that he was obliged to leave the school for 3 days & for two days he never left the house. It was in great distress

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and the Doctor was afraid it was threatened with inflamation on the brain, although I hardly think that it was in as much danger as they feared. They sent to Delhi for a physician, but I believe the child was better before he got there. The remedy which they thought it effected the cure was the constant application of water to his head as cold as it could be made. I first saw him the day after the child having been sick with "Scarlet Fever". We finished the Latin grammar for this term last Friday, & we expect to finish the Virgil by next Friday. I went over to Otego last Saturday & met with disappointment in every direction. I went to all the Cobbles in hopes to get my shoes as I need them very much indeed, but found that he had not got the measure. I was some disappointed in not seeing you, but more disappointed in not finding my clothes at Uncle William's. I also thought that some of them would be glad to attend the Chemical lectures as they were so cheap, but they none of them appeared to see any importance in them except Uncle Hatton Birdsall. That Henry Rose that went to school to Mr Converse last winter in Otego is some from Triangle for the purpose of attending them. Old Mr Betts was buried here last Sunday. He was said to be worth over $20,000. He had 4 children two sons & two daughters. They are each to have $3000, & the rest is to be left with his wife till she dies, & then to be divided equally. One of his sons drinks a great deal too much liquor for his own good, & the other I don't call a very smart man. The old man has lived in this town 53 years. He used to be a sailor. You must forgive my mistakes, as I haven't looked over. My health is tolerable good.

Your affectionate son

Wm. T. Bancroft

E. & L. B. Bancroft

504

Harpersville Monday March 5th 49

Dear Friend
Wm Oscar Bancroft

I received your letter yesterday with pleasure I assure you and have commenced an answer I am glad to hear from you for I was afraid you would forgets it. You wished me to give you a correct account of what west is going on here and if you will sit down and listen with patience I will try to tell you. In the first place there there is a going to be a great deal of building here. Mr Harmon Tyrrell has bought the tavern stand & is going to build a very large tavern on it. Mr James B Frasier is going to build a house the other side of the mill pond (if you wish to know which the other side is it is the north side. Mr Edwin Northrup is a going to build a house close by the Chapel on the north side (Mr Converse is going to do his work)
Luke Dort is going to build a house on that lot on the side hill before the Chapel (a pleasant place) Doctor Guy is a going to build a house where the old one stands

They are going to build a bridge down by the
grist Mill this summer they have getting out the timber
now. I believe that is all the building that is going
on here except some barnes &c, we have had excelent
sleighing here this winter but I have not had but one
sleigh ride this winter last week I went up to
Louisville with Mrs Avery we had very good sleighing
a going up but before we came back the sleighing all
went off and we had to come home on bare ground
Edward sends his respects to you & says he would like
to have you write to him. he talks of going to school
at Franklin the next time if it is so that we can
Edward & myself will ~~come~~ go up to south bambridge when
you get home. Give my respects to Franklin and give
him one of ~~those~~ the cards that are enclosed
and keep the other yourself. I have told all the
News that I think of now and will bring my
letter to a close, You wished me to write how
they get along with Mr. Ritchem they have not
tried him yet his trial comes on next week
Town Meeting has all gone Democrat except
one or two constables there is a few foolish fellows
here that have got the gold. Mr. H G Wilcox
intends to this spring & Robert Arthur & Edwin
Northrup talk of going but the gold fever seems
trouble me. I have wrote all I can think of
so will stop where I am.

Your friend, Arthur Vosburg. (P.M.B.)

to Wm.Oscaf Bancroft.

trouble me I have wrote all that I can think of & so I will stop wherever am

From Your Friend

To Wm O Bancroft

Arthur Cosbury

Franklin Academy Mar 31st 1849

Dear Parents

I did not expect to write to you quite so soon, but I found soon after you left that I had got the key to Berthiers trunk, & as I thought perhaps he would be in a hurry for it, I concluded to write as soon as possible. We have 8 boarders at Mr Sullards which makes quite a family for them. Edgerton brought Mr Scotts son & old Lovejoy with him. I do not think it is hardly fair for Mr Sullard to charge us 8/6 merely for board, while he lets Mr Hyde & Mr Lyon have board, washing, lodging, room rent & lights & fuel for 11/-. They have a room carpeted, & with a good stove, a lounge, chairs, & finely every thing that is necessary, & even have their wood brought in. According to the common price for washing and lodging they have all these room accomodations for $0.75 a week. I have to pay a dollar a term for room, & have to furnish it all, & buy wood & lug it up stairs, & furnish my own lights, & last night Mr Hurd said so much about the students having such nasty rooms, that to day I went at it & washed & scoured the ceiling, with ashes, & mopped the floor, & if I haven't had a hard job of it then I dont know what a hard job is. Edgerton has no knack of doing any such thing so that I have not had much help from him except in bringing water. I am going to have a hard time of it again this term in keeping up with my classes, I only studied Geometry half of last term, but Mr Hurd has put me in the advanced class all of whom have studied nearly twice as much as I have of it. And in the Horace class all but two have read a great deal more Latin than I have & those two are very smart fellows, & part of the class have read quite a ways in it before & Mr Hurd has put them back with us; & in the Greek class all but one have read more than I have. It makes me feel discouraged & homesick. My Horace & Classical dictionary cost $6 12½. O how often I wish that I could get into some business that would be better for me & easier. You dont know anything about it how hard it is to have to study as hard & be all the while in a fever for fear you shan't be able to get along. Edgerton says that his father wants to set up an

Apothecarys Store either in Binghampton or Deposit, & wants to have some physician go into partnership with him. He has had some talk with Dr. Tim Guy, but they haven't come to any conclusion. I thought perhaps it would not do any hurt for you to call & talk with Mr Edgerton about it when you go to Harpersville, although I dont think you will make any bargain with him, but perhaps you might. We have quite a good lot of students this term so far as I am able to judge. I should think Hyde was quite a good scholar; at least in Mathematics. Mr Hers says we have got to go into Xenophon's Anabasis (in Greek) in a few weeks, but I think I shall get Uncle Oscar's Greek Lexicon if I can, to use through the term, so if I should not come again more, I should not have to buy one. I hate to keep buying these large costly books when it is so uncertain how long I shall want to use them. Mr Hall's think's I had better buy Scotts Greek lexicon which is a larger & later work & he thinks better. It will cost probably about $4 50. You must excuse this letter as I am tired & in a great hurry as it is after bed time & I have a great deal that I had ought to do. Please write soon

Yours with affection

Wm C. Bancroft

P.S. To L.B. Bancroft.

April 1st/69

P.S. Please bring up my satin stock if father does not wear it. I hardly think that I shall be able to get my clothes over to Uncle Henry to take down. I have not time to go over myself, & I do not know of any chance to send them. If you can't come up soon enough I can get washing where Edgerton does his for 50¢ a week. We have had very disagreeable weather here ever since I come, which together with having to work very hard has made me rather home sick at times. I have been told that Holden Dollar Magazine can be got here for 6/- as they have a local agent here.

Yours &c Wm C. Bancroft

1849- -23

~~PC-311~~
PC - 291

April 28 1849

New York April 27th 1849

Edward P. Crane

Dear Cousin

Wm Oscar B Your last epistolary favor was received and has remained so long unanswered on account of ignorance of your situation, since, from your letters we know you were at sea, though we know not where, since the receipt of the beautiful catalogue you sent us, I am inclined to think you were very agreeably employed, though by no means an pleasant duty. Judging from the catalogue you sent me I should think you were very pleasantly situated, if your health permits, pursue your favorite studies (which I hope is the case) and consider yourself fortunate in exploring the country, where so many glory, you may find the most beautiful natural scenery, in a climate like the Canaries, to the very site where all is cramped and confined, deprived of the [illegible] I [illegible] you [illegible] I think you would enjoy yourself much, under the balmy [illegible] sky. I am in the habit from the pleasure you [illegible] "Spider-Land" "Some Year Dreaming", I do not take exception to the superficial reading [illegible] but I will assure you [illegible] that, before entering College, that I [illegible] some time a [illegible] reviews while "reading" the above mentioned all this [illegible] [illegible].

After having [illegible] the [illegible] page [illegible] I shall now deal with personal matters, first as to the family. Uncle is again at Albany with hopes [illegible] having disposed his connections here, with Cousin Henry so that you may direct to Box 334 Albany, any communications intended for him, which he would be glad to receive. Kinsman is a clerk for Mr. Pratt's merchant, who has a saw & planing mill, [illegible] Aunt Matilda spent the winter with us and is now here with her sister Sarah who came here from Cleveland last Wednesday. Sister Eliza has been quite sick of dysentery though we hope she is [illegible]. I suppose you have heard of the death of poor Cousin [illegible] Knott. Cousin Gilbert Whittlesey the young gentleman

who was boarding with us when you were here, started, with his brother Edward, of Buffalo, for California by the overland route, under Col H. L. Weil. We have received a number of letters from them and a few weeks ago heard that the Cholera had broken out among the company while in the Rio Grande, and that Edw Whitney was one of the first victims which has been confirmed since, by letters from his brother. The company has been disbanded, some of them are, may we, what his intention is, I know not!

You are probably as well informed as myself. The last news from Europe is important and meaningful. "Wars & rumors of wars" seem to be the order of the day. The Germans & Danes have commenced their barbarous warfare and the latter so far have been unsuccessful, having lost in the bay of Schleswig a large brig of war (18 guns) and a frigate of 42, in the former of which 10 men were killed by the explosion of the magazine! The Austrians have experienced a number of defeats in Hungary but in Lombardy they have held their own. Thus stands the matter. Cholera is reported as having been found in Constantinople. The European commotions, ought to make us thankful for the blessings of peace & freedom which we enjoy.

Give our united love to your father and mother. Please write us where they are now living. We are now at Monday to 240 249 W 24th st where please direct your letter, To Wm Oscar Beverly

Your affectionate cousin

Answered May 23rd 1849

Wm Oscar B.

Franklin Acad. Apr. 29th 1849

Dear Parents

Dr J.D.B

I received mothers very interesting letter bearing date Apr. 12th the monday following (it being brought over from Otego by one of the students) with more pleasure than you can possibly dream of. I never knew before how pleasant it was to receive a letter from home, because I do not know that I have ever received one before. Last term my friend Edgerton received a letter from some of his folks almost every week, & although I sometimes envied him his pleasure, I never fully realized how much pleasure it was. I did not at first intend to write to you, till Mr. Hyde should come up, but as I expected they would come during the past week, & as I am getting on rather a short allowance of medicine I concluded to defer it no longer. I was quite pleased to hear that there was a prospect of having the school increased by so many of our acquaintances during the next term, & I have heard by Mr Edgerton that two of Judge Ruggles' daughters are going to attend next term. The school proceeds finely so far (as usual) new students keep coming in gradually. There is probably more here now than has ever been before in a spring term. There was a young gentleman arrived here from New-York last week, who came for the purpose of attending school. He is a very genteel, smart looking young fellow. The Methodists have had a quite interesting meeting here yesterday & to-day, & this afternoon I attended to hear their presiding Elder preach, but was somewhat disappointed because I did not think there was much preach about it, although some of his remarks were very good indeed. This P.M. I went to hear Eld Robertson preach the last sermon he will probably preach in this place. It was a very good one in my opinion. His text was "Be ye not deceived, evil communications corrupt good morals" 1st Cor 15th 33d I may not have the words exactly right — I quote from memory, & my memory is none of the best I can assure you nowadays. It seems almost all the while as if my head was so full of something that it can hardly hold it — but what I say that is so full of I am sure I do not know, as I

here at present. The weather remains quite cold. Some folks have planted a few potatoes. Albert Hyde is well & got along first rate with his studies so far as I can judge; he is quite a talented fellow. The Lyons are also well. Yours &c, Wm.

P.S. I am not believing for if I was I should think it might be of some service to me. If you knew how I have the hypo or the blues or something of that sort at times I am sure you would pity me. I sometimes wish that I could know whether I am always to enjoy myself so poorly as I do now or not. Then I am glad that I do not know, for if I knew that I never was to feel any better I should be miserable. But I don't know that I had ought to complain so long as God spares my parents to me, for if I did not have something to stimulate me I should give up entirely. But once in a while have some amusement which relieves the tedium of my studies for a short time. Last Tuesday after I had recited my last recitation for the day I was so completely used up that it seemed as if I could not study any more & I should most probably have been deficient in my recitations if there had been any school the next day. But Mr Herr gave the scholars a free day to go & get some trees to set out in place of those that had died. We do as I did not feel like study that evening I concluded to attend the Lyceum. There was a question of some interest up & Mr Herr was one of the Disputants. The question was as near as I can recollect thus; Resolved, that the Rumseller who knowingly sells liquor to the habitual drunkard virtually commits murder. The next morning Mr Stoughton, Edgerton & myself started before sunrise & went nearly two miles above the village & dug the largest tree that was brought upon the grounds the day before breakfast. It was a beautiful morning & I enjoyed myself better than I have done before this term. We set the tree out near the corner of Prof. Herr's house. I do wish somebody was able to tell me what I ought best for me to do, because I do hate to stay here laboring for bread with Greek & Latin without there is some prospect of Pa's doing me any good. I have been thinking that perhaps it would be better for me to study Latin & English parsing next term & try to teach next winter but I have talked with Robt Herr & he advises me not to teach if I can possibly stay here, he says that the common district schools don't have any very forward scholars but they will bother a person so much that he will not be able to get along with his advanced studies. He says that by teaching I will forget a good deal of the languages when I come back here my classes will be gone on a head & it will take a good while to get a name with a new class, all of which would tend to discourage me. And the fact is I do hate to give up Latin & Greek if I can even a going to do anything with them as I am in smart classes, & I begin to get hold of them better myself. I was sick enough in getting a Greek Dictionary, but I made shift so that I shall have it by one this week if I get on with my Greek which with numerous other studies is really a task. Yours with affection, William T. Barnard.

Write & L. B. Barnard

Franklin May 1st 1829.—

Dear Parents

I do not know that I should ever have been better pleased to have had you come than to day, as I have felt down hearted enough to day, but Mr Hoyt's coming has cheered me considerable. Yesterday a little after noon I had a severe attack of the headache, but not so hard, but I was able to get through with my recitations for the P.M., but I was not able to study any more so after prayers, instead of going to supper I went off over the hill thinking that by taking exercise & going without eating I might be able to wear it off, but I did not succeed, so went to bed early & thought I should sleep it off, but I got up this morning with a dull feeling in my head & as soon as I went to studying it commenced harder than ever, but notwithstanding I stuck to it & made out to get through with all my recitations, & then I went up to Mr Sullard's & peeled potatoes about two hours & that has made out to cure it I believe, It dont seem as if I could stand it to work so hard but I mean to keep up if possible. If I could only go home & work a week I believe I could come back & work ~~like~~ as good as ever. I was disappointed in not finding any pills among the pills, as I took the last I had to day, but perhaps it will be best for me to do without them, as I have got a use to them, or they so used to me by taking them so regularly that they do not produce the least effect on me, & I presume that my being so costive is the cause of my headache. I wish that you would come up as soon as in two weeks if you can, as I presume I shall need a resting spell by that time & I can go over to Otego with you. I want you should get me a brown linen sack-coat made for warm weather as it will be comfortable, & as there home that kind is it will not look odd, I should like also to have a new summer vest. Please dying up my mole-skin trowsers, as perhaps they will do to wear a little although I expect they will get dirty very quick. Mr George Chamberlain living ~~was~~ not a distance above the village died very sudden yesterday of the billious cholick. He was down to the village as well as usual ~~yesterday~~ before yesterday, he is probably a cousin of Rufus. Please write if you can & give his ~~fun~~ any thing interesting you write about. Come up as soon in the week as you can. But it is late & I must close

From your affectionate son, Wm H. Bancroft

E. & L. B. Bancroft

Mr F. D. Bancroft
Southbridge

952

Franklin Acad June 9th 1849

Dear Parents

I was in hopes to have received a letter from you before this; but as I have some news for you I thought I would take time to write to you to day. The celebrated temperance lecturer Mr John B. Gough is to be here by request the 18th & 19th inst. I presume you recollect a few years ago about there being a great deal said in the papers concerning this mans being deceived into drinking some liquor which caused his old appetite for it to revive so that he became intoxicated. I have seen some men that have heard him speak & they say he is as good an orator as can be found in the United States, one of the very best. One of the students was speaking a little while ago about his father's going 20 miles for the purpose of hearing him & I have heard of some going a good deal farther. I have sent for Holden's Magazine to be sent to Bainbridge. I paid 7/- for a yearly subscription. If I could have had it sent here for 6/- The agent says there is the more reading in it than there is in any publication of the price in the country. He says that it is gradually improving all the while or rather has been along back. The principal Editor Mr Holden has gone to Calaforaia & is writing a series of letters. J R Smith says that his folks have taken it some time & like it very much. He says he likes it very well only there is too many stories in it to suit him. But if there were any in there would be too many to suit him, but he thinks he shall take it. Mr Reynolds the Bookseller in this place says the most part of it is very good & is accounted by most folks to be a good judge. But what be I talking so much about it for? For if you receive it you will be capable of judging whether it is good for anything. I have never had a chance to read one of them as I dont know anything about them good, bad, or indifferent. Mr Hers appeared to be very glad to see me back, & said that I looked a great deal healthier than before & he thought it had done me a good deal of good going home, but at least the 1st thing he asked me was whether I had got my exhibition piece written, & said he expected at 1st rate one from me, but I am

afraid he will be disappointed in having a very good one as although he thinks I look so much better I dont feel so much better by a good deal. I had a very severe headache all day yesterday & I have felt quite weak in the joints ever since I have been here. My rupture is so bad now days that I cannot take as much exercise as I would like too. Nature has never appeared so beautiful to me as it has since I returned. The trees & the grass in the fields all look wonderful good to me. They are very busy around here hoeing their corn. I can see some 6 or 8 from my window now hoeing in one field. We had very good exercises last night. F. R. spoke an original piece giving a description of the Anti-Rent War & some of the characters that beat anything of the kind I ever heard before. There is a man here by the name of Sweet lecturing on eloquence, author of a book called Sweets Elocution. If you should not think you could come to hear Mr Gough, as I suppose I shall not be very well able to write to you again this term so I will tell you what I can about the close of the term. There will be an examination Tuesday but perhaps you will not think it proper to come then. The exhibition will begin the next day at 10 o'clock. You might come up to Meigs & then come over in the morning. Some are prophesying that there will be the best exhibition there has been in a good many years, but we cant tell much about it yet. There is some dispute as to whether they will have it in the church or in the grove. If you should not come up before the close of the term I should like to have you send a dollar if convenient although I can get along as Edgerton owes me a bill over a dollar, but he has got to send home or else borrow if he pays me now. I had to pay $2 00 for the horse & carriage that I sent down after you & $1 00 for the doctor bill if I had let mother had part of that money to carry back as I calculated I should have been rather bad off. The expenses this term will be $3 35 for tuition, $1 60 for board unless they charge extra for the time I was sick, & somewhere between $11 or $12, to be paid here for books. Total will be about $22 & 00. Old Robertson preached his farewell sermon last Sunday & it was the best sermon I have heard in Franklin. Mr Lyon left to day for home. 10th Had a very severe rain storm. I had some talk with the Proffesor last night. He is in quite high spirits concerning the anniversary he thinks it will be the best one they have ever had. He has been quite unwell ever since I've been here. He was so unwell several days that he was not in school at all & he is not able to hear all his classes now.

Yours as ever William O. Bancroft

P.S. If you should wish to come up to the temperance meeting I would like to have you send a dollar if you can. I'll pay back the money I borrow of Mrs. Perkins. I'll be home morning of Tues. looking for you.

J. E. & L. B. Bancroft.

184(

Del Lit. Inst. June 20th

Dear Parents.

I received your interesting letter the 12th inst. and should have answered it sooner had I not written to you such a short time before. As there is no school to day on account of the teachers & the majority of the students going on a part botanical & part pleasure excursion to a very celebrated place some 8 mis above here towards Oneonta, called the Fly; I thought I would improve the opportunity by writing to you. I very much wish that I could have a chance to come home, as I do not see a prospect of receiving much benefit from remaining here the rest of this term. Our school this week has the prospect of amounting to very little profit to any of us. Mon & Tu there was school but 1/2 a day on account of the Temperance Convention, although I do not feel as if my time was lost there entirely, because I had the chance of hearing a speaker of whose powers of oratory words would be inadequate to express, but it still it broke up the school for two days, & I dislike to pay for schooling I dont have; & to day this great excursion has deprived us of a school, & I suppose Mr Herr dont like it very well because I would not go, but I do not feel disposed to go where I dont wish to & spend my money when I haven't got any to spend. This expedition has been in agitation some time & Mr Herr has been very much interested in it, but there has been a great deal of trouble among the students about concerning the manner of going, & Mr Herr has said that it seemed to him as if in every project that has been started this term there has been somebody to block up the way; but I have not had anything to say about the matter pro or con, & if he is disposed to dislike it there he must. To-morrow there is to be a Circus in the place & although I do not expect the school will stop for that I presume it will make and a tumult that there will not be much done, so there will be 2 days this week about as good as nothing as far as the school is concerned. If it had not been for the great interest which I took in hearing Mr Gough I should have been homesick enough. He is decidedly the best speaker I ever heard, & I hope if he comes anywhere near you, that you will go & hear him. I never formed any great calculations concerning anything before, but I was disappointed, but in this case I had my expectations raised very high but he more than answered them. I have purchased his Autobiography. — I dont think I shall

ever go to school in an Academy again the last 2 or 3 weeks of the summer term, unless I alter my mind. Next week will be all taken up in preparing for examination & in learning our pieces, & I don't believe that it does any good to be examined, & if I could have known a little sooner how it was going to be I should have come home & learned my exhibition piece & then come back the last day & spoken it, seeing Mr Kerr is so anxious. It is no small job to write & learn an exhibition I say sure you; I guess I have written mine over 5 or 6 times & I don't expect it is good for anything now. It discourages me entirely to see how others can get along so much easier than I can both in writing & in other learning of all kinds. And if I could get into any business after this term I would give up trying to be what I know well enough I can't. There has been a great deal of contention among the students as to the propriety of the exhibition; some are for having it in the church & some out in the grove; but I believe it is settled for out doors. I want when you come to the exhibition that you should be here as soon after 9 o clock as possible, for the hour appointed is ten & if you are not here in season I shall not be able to get you a good seat. I was over to Otego last saturday. Aunt Harriet & Catherine are better. Uncle Nathan came from there while I was there and he said that Aunt Harriet rode out with him almost to the red school-house & back & Catherine would have gone to Unadilla had it not rained some in the morning. Grandmother, Aunt Tacy & Susan had gone up to the poor house. There has been some 2 or 3 deaths from the cholera along the Delaware river about 20 mis from here. There has been one case in Roberts about 30 mis from here where the man died from it who had not been away from home; in all the other cases the men had just returned from city. If it should get to be a great deal nearer I should rather be at home, as my bowels are in such a bad state, & I don't think this old building is very healthy in hot weather especially to sleep in as the smells very bad — John J. Birdsall has gone to work in the printing office of the Freemans Journal. Wm Henry has got a great deal of work done on the farm this year, without much help. I must excuse my poor letter as I feel very nervous & my head is very much inclined to ache. My cherry bark syrup has lost its virtue, or something else as it does not prevent my having the head-ache. I put some of Townsend's Sarsparilla in it to make it taste better & don't know but that spoiled it. The weather is very hot & sultry. The north wind blows to day but it does not seem to be cool enough to do any good. I thought when I commenced that I should not write but little, but I have kept going on without hardly knowing what I've been writing so I expect it is a poor mess. I should be pleased to receive another letter from one or both of you before the term is out. Give my respects to all enquiring friends. With my best wishes.

Your affectionate son. — William A. Bancroft

To E & L B. Bancroft

P.S. If you should write me a letter I should be glad to have you send me a dollar or so if convenient, as I have got but 1/— & I owe Smith some 2/— or 3/—. I don't know how much for fixing my watch. Edgerton owes me $1.32 but he has not got a single cent in his pocket. He has promised to borrow some of his uncle & I presume he will, so if you can not send it conveniently no matter. Mr Lane as I suppose you recollect was not calculating to come to school any more after this term, so a few weeks ago as he got tired he thought he would leave for his pleasure he returned day before yesterday having been to visit the Chicago balls

1241

Mr Wm O. Bancroft
Otego
Otsego Co
N.Y.

Co. Rainbridge Aug. 17. 1849

Dear Son —

We are in usual health Father is quite comfortable —— You will find your Coat and some other things at Wm Shephards if they do not send them over to you or to Uncle Nathany — I have agreed with Mr Clyde to make you a pair of Slips and send them over to you — Yours &c J D Bancroft

Wm C. Bancroft

[illegible]

you will find a box of Ointment in the basket which Mrs Neal made for you to use once or twice a day on your rupture, if you receive any benefit from it — write & we will prepare more ——

1219

Wm C. Bancroft

Care of Mr Sullard

Franklin "Institute"

Otego. Sept. 16th 1849

Dear Parents

I little expected when I wrote my last letter to you, that my next one would be written from this place but so it is. I was taken with a slight attack of Diarrhea last Thursday which soon turned to a Dysentery, though as it was not attended with much pain at 1st I was not much alarmed, but it soon grew worse. I took up what Paragoric I had left, & then took a patent medicine called pain killer which is highly recommended for bowel complaints, but they did not appear to check the disease, & so as I had a chance to ride over to Otego Saturday morning I thought I would improve the opportunity as I hated to be sick in Franklin again. I opposed a Dr. Saunders, & he gave me some powders composed partly of Morphine I believe, & advised me not to go back to Franklin again till I got better. I then went down to Uncle William's & staid awhile & then came over to Uncle Nathan's & here I am at present, & I don't know how long I shall have to stay here. My secretions have been of a dark greenish colour & some of the time quite bloody. Aunt Ruth has given me some tea made from a plant called Cow lick which Uncle Nathan thinks is the best remedy he has ever tried for such diseases, though it has not cured me yet. I think that I am getting better because my secretions have ceased being bloody, but I am still in a good deal of pain & have to keep perfectly still, for if I begin to walk about it brings on the pain harder. If I do not get enough better soon, so that I can go back to school I think I shall take the stage & come home, & if I do not come home, I want one or both of you to come up to Franklin in a week or two at the longest if you possibly can. I have not eat anything to-day except a very little milk porridge, I ate a little toast yesterday. My tongue is somewhat furred & my mouth tastes very bad indeed.

Aunt Sarah died yesterday about 10 o clock & is to be buried to-morrow. The funeral is to be held at the stone school house. I have not heard who is going to preach. There is a great deal of sickness on Land-hill & in the back part of the town of Madison There are some sick in almost every house & I have heard that four lay dead at one time not a great ways apart It is tolerable healthy in Franklin yet. Several of the students are complaining of this summer complaint although none were considered dangerous when I left. John C. F. has left Cooperstown & gone nobody knows where. He told some he was going to New York to work in the printing business there & some he was going to California. Please write soon & direct to Franklin because I shall probably be there unless you hear something more from me. I cannot write any more now as my headache very bad.

Yours &c.

Wm O. Bancroft

Mr & Mrs B Bancroft.

Tuesday Morning. Do not feel much better, am getting about discouraged. This letter will be carried to So. Bainbridge by Mr Porter Gilbert.

Yours &c

Wm O. Bancroft.

Hook Bishop Esq Sir, with the inclosed policy and assignment, of John McDonald, being policy No 40379.
I have inclosed the assignee, N.K. Barstow, Premium Note of $10, the 50cts recording fees I have received and will transmit with other moneys — I have also made a new Survey & Sent one, with his Premium Note, I did not know that it was necessary but still thought it might be satisfactory — The $400 due from Barstow to McDonald is to be paid in two instalments $200. next Jan. & 200 the remainder in one year from that time I think they will be paid at the time as I heard Barstow offered to assign to Mr D. a mortgage he held against other property — you will receive them ~~to-day~~ how been an other building a small shop brought within 10 rods since Mr Pratt made his survey say 20 ft but it is on the opposite side of the road as are all the other buildings not insured, as also Barstows waggon house mentioned in the application — I also inclose an application for the insurance of Barstows House there are no buildings within 10 rods

Franklin Oct. 13th 1861

Dear Parents,

I was in hopes (that seeing I had quite deferred writing to you for so long a time) I should have received a letter from you before I should write, but I have not deferred writing to you on that account but because I have not been able to get time. I intended last Monday to write so as to have a letter go down by the Wednesday's mail, but was unable to accomplish it, & I have to take time now for I have more to do now than I shall be able to accomplish this day. I don't no how I shall live if I have always got to be hurried through the world in this style, But heretofore I have been able to count on saturday as my own, & have calculated to perform all miscellaneous business on this day, but now I have to be engaged in the Teachers Institute from 9 until 12 o'clock A.M. & from dusk till 9 or 10 past in the evening, so that you see with my preparations before going in that my time on Saturday is tolerable well used up. Since noon I have had to bring over from the village 3 cords and bring up to my room wood enough to last through the week and I have got to learn a piece to speak next Friday evening and I also wish to write a piece for the paper, which together with other things which I wish to perform I am afraid will be more than I shall be able to accomplish, so you must pardon all my mistakes, as I shall not look it over to see what I have written or how, I am not at all sorry as yet that I came back this term for it seems to me as though I had learned more really useful knowledge than I learned in a whole term when I studied Latin & Greek, but perhaps I am mistaken. I wish you could be here one evening & see how our "Teacher's Institute" goes off, we have some students here that have been to several, & we have been visited by some "big men" and they say it is carried off in the best style, & has the largest number of students of any they have seen. There are a good many teachers that have come in and joined this who do not attend the Academy, but I'll tell more about it when I get home

If they conclude to hire me at Sarle's Hill I want you should let me know immediately & when they wish to have it begin, because I want to be at home at least a week before commencing, & a fortnight if possible but I also wish to attend the Teachers Institute as long as possible. If they do not conclude to have me there you may do just as you like about getting me another. I have had a chance to teach in this County where I could have got $15 or $16. but it is some 20 miles from here & I should prefer not to teach in this direction. I heard last night that the school by Lunde that Nathan Birdsall's was not yet taken up, ~~that~~ but ~~that~~ is such a small district, that I suppose they would not give much wages. & I don't wish to teach this winter unless I can have so much as $12. & I had rather not teach that school on some other accounts. I have spoken to Mr Reynolds concerning the price of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary and he says he cannot sell them less than $6. & he then makes less profit on them than he does on his other books, the right of publishing them has been purchased by one company & they of course monopolize the business. He sells the abridged edition for $3 25 now, making a difference as you see of $2 75 whereas there is not near the difference in the size of the books. I hardly no myself how to decide; I see now that the Unabridged is worth the most, but whether it is worth enough the most to pay the difference is another thing. Our teacher here says we ought not to teach school without one of them. But there being so large would make them more liable to injury in the hands of the scholars than the other is. Mr Reynolds has sold out all he has, but he says if I will give him a fortnight's notice he will get me one, so if you conclude to get one for me it will be necessary for you to let me know as soon as possible, but I do not wish you to get me one unless you feel able and think it is best. I intend to purchase a book on Physiology & a Brown's Grammar of my room mate which will probably amount to somewhere about $2, & I would like to purchase a new Arithmetick which has lately been published by

Mr Adam's (pr 3/-) but I have not yet decided whether to do it or not. There are quite a number of the Students buying these large Dictionaries, but Mr Reynolds says he does not like to send for more at a time than he can dispose of as there will not probably be many that will want to purchase them after this fall untill next fall, & he cant afford to have so much capital lying idle at the small profit he makes on them & therefore ~~on these for~~ he has made an arrangement so that he can generally get books in a little over a week from the time he sends for them, & that is the way he works it with the classical books used in the school; when a class gets ready to enter some new work Mr Hurlbut lets him know how many is wanted, & he has them here we thout fail. My health is some better than it was when I left home but it is not 1st rate yet. My eyes were very weak for several days after I came & finally they began to inflame again, but I had the luck to get some eye-water of one of the students that helped them amazingly & I think they are pretty much out of danger now though I still remain weak. The weather has been very disagreeable since I have been here, some of the time very cold & raw & the rest of the time rainy. I have had to burn about as much wood a day as I generally burn in the same length of time in the winter, & now whilst I am writing I have let the fire get down so that my hands are as numb I can hardly hold my pen. I have been very fearful that I should be sick so as to have to leave for I have been unable to find a pair of India-rubbers that would fit me. But as the side-walk is generally tolerable dry & I have been pretty careful about changing my stockings & shoes as soon as I get to my room I have got along without having my throat sore but one day, & then I took a dose of Andrews Pain killer which is as hot as cayenne pepper & if effected an immediate cure. Give my respects to Mary E. if she has not yet returned, & give little Willie a kiss on each cheek for me. With my best wishes I remain,

Your affectionate Son Wm. H. Bancroft

pr H. H. B. Bancroft

Dr John D. Bancroft
Sc. Bainbridge
Phil.

Franklin Oct 21st 1849

Dear Parents

I received your letter dated 15th, with much pleasure, but was sorry that you had not received mine. It gave me much pleasure to hear that you were all enjoying as good health as could be expected. The weather has been so cold & disagreeable here that I was fearful it would make some of you sick, if it was as bad in Bainbridge. I was also glad to hear the matter settled about where I was to teach school, so that I can set my mind at rest, as I have had the chance of having several schools at $14, $15 and $16 & some were quite urgent so that I hardly knew what answer to give. I was also sorry that I could had anything to do with that school, but I presume that all things taken into consideration it will be best for me, as these other schools are probably a great deal more advanced & there would be more danger of my failing. Our Teacher's Institute (though it has sadly diminished in numbers on account of so many of the teachers going off to commence their schools) still continues to be very interesting & instructive. I shall feel more than double the confidence to undertake teaching this winter for my attending this. I can see just how miserably I have always been taught in Arithmetick & it almost seems a wonder to me that I know as much about it as I do. The Teacher informed us last night that the Institute would probably close next week unless they should be quite a number desirous of having it continued longer, & there is so many going away continually that I think it has a time if it continues any longer. You can come after me either the last of this week or the 1st of next, or any time after that, if you think it best for me to stay any longer. If I leave the school next Friday my Academy expense will probably not be over $2.75 for this term & my board will cost but a little over $1.85 a

It seems to me as though December was rather late to have a school commence, but come to think of it, I don't but it is early enough for a two months school. I was thinking when I first commenced writing this that seeing that school commenced so late I might stay here the rest of the term, but on thinking of it a little more, I don't know as it is best as the last part of the fall term is rather a dull time, it seems to put a stagnation on affairs here, having so many of the best scholars go off so near the close of the term. And I don't know but I ought to spend some time at home to recruit my bodily strength, as I have some misgivings at times about my ability to travel through the snow drifts this winter. So you can come just when you like & I'll be satisfied. I have been to hear the new Baptist minister who fills Eld Roberts's place or at least tries to, but I think he will have pretty hard work to fill his place but others may think different. Gen Riley is going to deliver a temperance lecture to-morrow night. I hope you will not criticise this letter very closely, as my head as been in such a whirl that I have hardly known what I have been about since I commenced writing, & I have not time to write another. I guess you will have to come with the lumber wagon, as there would be rather too much load for the other wagon, but it is supper time & I must go. If you can I would like to have you write, & let me know what time you will be here, so that I shall not have so much to do after you get. I guess perhaps you had better come next week Tuesday, though if you had rather come this week Friday it will make no material difference with me. With my best wishes for your welfare, I remain as ever.

Your affectionate Son
Wm O. Bancroft

H. & L. B. Bancroft

a generous, warm hearted man, & he believes that he died a Christian; that such was the often expressed opinion of Parson Chase. Peck is a native of the South Farms Parish, & lived there at the time your father died, recollects the Martin boys well, &c &c. But I had not time enough to visit with him as I wished. —

There is a fine place for a store there in this town. Some good Baptist Brothers would come in, if it is found to be about. I am looking up, & is doubtful if it is worth while now. Dyson is 60.

Elisha Tucker was there. He remembers you & Mother, & old Father Marsh & others. He is preaching at Chicago in this State.

Lewis Raymond was also there, & made many enquiries after the family, & his brother in-law. I meet with a great many Martins in this State from different parts of the country, & on this account as well as others I wish you would (with the aid of Uncle Peter & aunt Charlotte, who are both older than yourself, & might therefore render important assistance) write a Sketch of the Martin family, & send to me. This would be of great value to your children & grand children, or to any one who might wish to collect the history of the family. And in addition to this will you not write a history of your own life & also of our dear departed Mother, giving dates, & statistics as far as you are able. I hope you will not think this an unreasonable request, for all your children will join heartily in it, & all prize such a history alike.

We dont want a book for publication, but a plain statement, in your own way, of many things we do not know, & many things we shall forget without without such a Memorandum.

I know such a work would be painful to you as the crushed hopes, & blasted expectations of the past, came up in review, but it would not be without its pleasure, & perhaps its profit. For, the Mercies of Our God, how sweet are they to the Memory! How tender, & pleasing the emotions which hover around the heart, as, after looking backward over the path of our pilgrimage, we set up an Ebenezer & say, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped me."

When I left home I had no expectation of being so long absent, yet I have never seen my way clearly prepared before me, for my return. — If the brethren pay up well I shall fare better in temporal things than I have before since I came West.

I am to have $300 per year, & house rent which is $60.00 more, $160. of this is to come from the Home Mission Society. Notwithstanding all this we have been more in want of necessary things, since we came here, than ever before. This arises partly, from my getting so far behind hand last year while I was sick, & partly from an increase of expences, owing to an increase of company. You know it costs more to live in town, than in the country. I wish you could come & see

Mr. & T. great measure country. Will one of the sons write to Mary & tell her what to do? Stay a year or so? the above cannot be understood in Kirtland. Send your affections, & tell your friends in this quarter. Farewell. Your Immortal Son J. S. Martin.

1232

Oct 16. Catharine Merrill is helping us at Jerusa. Wright soon -

So. Bainbridge Oct 15th 1849

'49

My Dear Son

I have been gradually improving since you left, am so that I sit up most of the time and take the care of my babe, she is well and grows finely.
I ventured into Father's room day before yesterday, but do not feel very strong, and have to keep pretty still as yet. Mary thinks she must leave us to morrow, how we shall get along then I do not know as we have as yet been unable to find another girl. Father has been quite smart till last evening and to day he is quite poorly. Your Uncle Wm. Aunt Harriet and their two eldest boys left here this morning for home, came on saturday, had been to Windsor. Harriet is still feeble but improving Catharine is no better. — We feel very anxious to hear from you how you get along and when you wish to come home. ~~there was a~~ A gentleman called here a few days after you left to let us know that they depended upon you to teach their school on Farlers hill, for three months, to commence the first Monday in december, John Wilkinson has taken the school in the Bateman district at $10 — Mary has got her likeness and a very good one, is much pleased with it, says she would like to stay with me longer, but her folks have sent word that it would not do for her to stay any longer Your Uncle Henry has been up to see Jane Cole he thinks she has failed a great deal since she left his house, the probability is that she will not recover, — I have sent a couple of your wrappers and some other articles to your Uncle Shephards, which you must try and get should you feel the need of them. but I am getting tired and must lie down Ma says I must finish ~~finish~~ her letter, but she might do it, for she sits there laughing at me — so you see we are pretty comfortable — we have got all ours corn in except the piece back of the waggon house, have not sold ours ~~butter~~ yet. McDonald & Hyde's have, price 16 cts —

We remain yours &c

Wm C. Bancroft

John D. Bancroft

Delaware Literary Institute, Oct 31st 1849

Mr A C Bancroft has been a member of this Institution for several terms. He is a young man of the very best character. His whole conduct here has been as perfect as could be desired. There has never been a young man among us for whom I have a more sincere respect. His scholarship is as good as the very best teachers of district schools. All he needs to make him the very best teacher is experience. I have no hesitation to recommend him as one who will please, and give entire satisfaction.

Geo Kerr Principal D.L.I.

Delaware Literary Institute Oct 31st 1849

Wm C Bancroft has been a member of this Institution for several terms. He is a young man of the very best character his whole conduct here has been as perfect as could be desired There has never been a young man among us for whom I have a more sincere respect. His scholarship is as good as the very best teachers of district schools. All he needs to make him the very best teacher is experience. I have no hesitation to recommend him as one who will please, and give entire satisfaction

Geo Kerr Principal D.L.I.

Badly positioned. Ten copies other side only.
Enlarge some.

1804

Dixon Ill. Nov. 7th 1849.

Dear Father

through the tender mercy of Our God we are all tolerably well. & yet perhaps I ought to make an exception in favor of Flora who is complaining this afternoon. Worms, perhaps: or a slight cold, or something of that sort. Myra too, has the toothache. These small matters are troublesome in every family east, or west. My health has been very good since about the first of June. Our State has been generally healthy this season except while the Cholera prevailed along some of the principal thoroughfares. Dixon is on the south bank of Rock River. & the county seat of Lee County. The church is small & mostly scattered in the country from 4. to 6. miles off. We have but one male member in town who walks with the Church. He is poor but pious & industrious. There is another but he will not walk with the church & will have to be dealt with as soon as I can get life enough into the Church to do it. Or rather when the Lord calls us, the brethren to see the necessity of removing the rubbish out of the way. Dixon is a wicked drunken, Sabbath breaking place.

We have had one horse race, Two deaths from "Delirium Tremens". & Bardances, Nigger Concerts, & Puppet Shows almost every night since I have been here.— Christians appear cold & indifferent, while the enemy is coming in like a flood. We have our first prayer Meeting at my house tonight, & expect to keep it up every Wednesday evening. Last Sabbath I tried to preach on "Justification by Faith Alone". Text Gal 2:16. Afternoon, "The Misery of Guilt." Text Isa 57:21. Felt more than usual freedom, & hope it was not in vain, though can see no external signs, that it was not as water spilt upon the ground. Good Night. I must do my chores & get ready for meeting. Thursday Nov 7th

Flora seems quite well today, & Myra's teeth are quiet. I have been out after a load of wood with my pony. Two of the famoille boys were here at dinner. They were here on land business. There is a government Land Office at this place, which calls a great many strangers here, as Northern Illinois is filling up with settlers very fast.

Two or three weeks ago I met with the Ill. Gen. Association at Griggsville in Pike Co. It is 225 miles from here. A long journey for a poor man. But I am glad I went. We had a good meeting. J. M. Peck was there He says he knew Grandfather well. That he was.

There is a first rate opening for a store, there being but two in the place, & with some good Baptist Brothers would come in, not now, but soon is looking up, & is bound to go ahead.

a generous, warm hearted man, & he believes that he died a Christian; that such was the often expressed opinion of Parton Chase. Peck is a native of the South Farms Parish, & lived there at the time your father died, recollects the Martin boys well, &c &c. But I had not time enough to visit with him as I wished. —

Elisha Tucker was there. He remembers you & Mother, & old Father Marsh & others. He is preaching at Chicago in this State.

Lewis Raymond was also there, & made many enquiries after the family, & his brother in-law. I met with a great many Martins in this State from different parts of the country, & on this account as well as others I wish you would (with the aid of Uncle Peter & aunt Charlotte, who are both older than yourself, & might therefore render important assistance) write a Sketch of the Martin family, & send to me. This would be of great value to your children & grand children, or to any one who might wish to collect the history of the family. And in addition to this will you not write a history of your own life & also of our dear departed Mother, giving dates, & statistics as far as you are able.

I hope you will not think this an unreasonable request, for all your children will join heartily in it, & all prize such a history alike.

We dont want a book for publication, but a plain statement, in your own way, of many things we do not know, & many things we shall forget without without such a memorandum.

I know such a work would be painful to you as the crushed hopes, & blasted expectations of the past, rise up in review, but it would not be without its pleasure, & perhaps its profit. For, the mercies of our God, how sweet are they to the memory! How tender, & pleasing the emotions which hover around the heart, as, after looking backward over the path of our pilgrimage, we set up an Ebenezer & say, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped me."

When I left home I had no expectation of being so long absent, yet I have never seen my way clearly prepared before me, for my return. — If the brethren pay up well I shall fare better in temporal things than I have before since I came West.

I am to have $800 per year, & house rent which is $60.00 more, $100. of this is to come from the Home Mission Society. Notwithstanding all this we have been more in want of necessary things, since we came here, than ever before. This arises partly, from my getting so far behind hand last year while I was sick, & partly from an increase of expences, owing to an increase of company. You know it costs more to live in town, than in the country. I wish you could come & see

Dear, & T. Great mercy come of the years we stay a year or so? May the Lord sanctify your afflictions, & lead you in his paths. Farewell. Your affectionate brother J. F. Martin.

Edward P. Crane

New-York December 1st 1849

Dear Cousin
W W Ozem B

Determined that no more time should elapse before commencing at least, to answer your letter I head my sheet letter-fashion, though very doubtful whether I will find time to finish it very soon

Mother, the little girls, William and myself went, July 25, to Jefferson Schoharie Co. to see Uncle Henry Pratt and family, and staid there about 3 weeks. During this time I had resolved to ballance accounts with correspondents, but there were so many inducements to ramble in the woods and fields, that my resolution was broken. I enjoyed myself at J. very much, and would have been glad to make you a visit if there had been any means for travelling in that direction. It was very pleasant for us to leave the hot and pestilence stricken city, and travel over the mountains and I assure you, we enjoyed the mountain air and scenery vastly. Aunts Matilda and Sarah were our housekeepers during our absence, whom, with Hiram (the only member of our family at home,) we found well, not having been attacked by the cholera which has been so awfully prevalent. I suppose you have not seen much of that plague around you, though have no doubtedly heard a great deal about it.

Ira has this season been doing business between Albany and New York, buying lumber on commission for his New York customers: he has done very well. Henry is in Albany with the Barnards. Hiram is at Mr Wells' mill in twenty ninth street boarding with us. Aunt Matilda went to Elmira about the 1st of November to spend the winter: Aunt Sarah is here for the winter. She is now reading a letter which has just come in from Aunt M. who reports all well. Mrs Curtis is now boarding in Greenwich street but has spent some time this summer in Cavarack; her daughters are boarding at No 10 Fourth street, they are still teaching, all I believe enjoying good health. Mother went to and returned from Cavarack last week where she left William whom we expect home soon. She found her relatives well

Brother Henry came down from Albany, day before yesterday and took a thanksgiving dinner with us returning in the night-boat: his health is as good as usual

You would have enjoyed yourself here during commencement exercises which to me at least were quite interesting.

Do you think of entering the University or any other college or does health forbid your pursuing your studies? Our family unite with me

in sending love to your parents.

Please write me on receipt of this as I am in doubt as to whether I ought to direct to Bainbridge or Franklin

To Wm Oscar Bancroft

Your affectionate Cousin
Edw.d P. Crane

School Taught by
Wm C. Bancroft
1849 & 50

Bainbridge

		4	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Annis Ireland	age 14	5	5	3	6	4	6	5	6	3
Marietta Ireland	15			3	3	2				

PC 32

Bainbridge Dec 3d 1849

List of Scholars attending School in District No winter of '49.'50

	Age	Dec 8 Sat.	14 Friday	18 Wed.	Jan 5 Sat.	11 Fr	19 S	25 Fr	Feb 2 Sat.	7 Wed	16 Fr	22 Fr	March 2d Sat	8th Fr	
Sherman Pearsall	16	5	4	1½	1	4	5	0	"	3	1	2	"	.	27
Lewis Pearsall	20	5	3	1½	.	"	"	5	4	3¾	4	3	2½	.	31
Burton Harles	12	6	5	1½	6	4½	5½	3	6	4	4	5	5	3	51
James Alter	14	6	2	½	3	4	4	5	4	4	2	4½	4	4	47
Oscar R. Pearsall	9	6	5	1½	4	5	6	4	6	2¼	4	4	"	½	45
Abner Varles	18	6	5	1½	5	3	5½	4	2	4	2	2	3½	.	45
Joseph Varles	18	4	5	1½	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	41
Geo. Ireland	7	6	5	1½	4	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	65
Robert Sliter	8	6	5	1½	6	4	6	5	6	5	6	5	5½	5	62
Thomas Varles	9	6	5	1½	6	5	5½	5	6	5	6	5	6	4½	56
Wm Sliter	12	6	5	1½	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	5	5	61
Joseph Sliter	5	6	4½	1½	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	64
Wm Miller	15	3	5	1½	6	4½	5	4	6	5	4½	4½	4	5	54
Almon S. Miller	18	3	3	½	"	2	1	"	"	.	"	"	"	"	47
John Ireland	6	5	5	1½	2	4	5	4	6	5	6	4	5	5	57
Wm Herrick	14	"	Dec 31	½	"	"	"	"	"	.	"	"		"	57
Ewd Ireland	16					5	3	4	2		2	2		1	

173 60% 41

over 12 yrs 75

PC - 329

PC 328

Weekly list of Scholars attending School in Dist. No in Bainbridge. 1849. '50

		1 week Dec. 8th	2 week	3 wk	4 wk	5 wk	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Melissa Pearsall	aged 19	days 6	5	1½	4½	5	5½	3	5½	5	5	4½	4	5	59
Laura E. Ireland	15	6	5	1½	4	4	2	4½	"	"	3½	2½	"	3	49
Freelove Slitz	9	6	5	1½	6	5	5	4	5	5	6	4	2	5	59
Leona Baldwin	8	6	5	1½	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	4	5½	5	60
Maria A. Ireland	8	6	5	1½	2	4	6	5	5½	5	6	5	6	5	62
Matilda Pearsall	14	4	5	1½	2	5	6	5	5	5	3	2	3	5	57
Polly Pearsall	11	6	5	1½	4	5	5	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	58
Harriet Bill	9	5½	4	1½	5	4	4	2	4½	4	4	5	5	2	42
Lafy Sarles	14	5½	4	½	4½	4	4	4	5	4	3	1	4	2	42
Adaline Pearsall	7	4	5	1½	1	3	5	4	4	1	3	5	3	1	40
Huldah Ireland	9	5	5	1½	5	5	5	4	6	5	6	4	5	5	61
Lydia S. Ireland	12	5	4	1½	2	4	4	3	5	4	5	4	4	4	44
Charlotte Ireland	13	5	5	1½	"	"	4	4	4	3	6	4	3½	4	50
Angelina Ireland	10	5	4	1½	3	4	5	4	3	5	6	4	6	5	52
Alice E. Ireland	7	5	5	1½	3	4	4	3	5	5	6	4	6	5	54
Huldah F. Ireland	11	4	5	1½	4	5	5	5	5½	5	6	5	6	5	57
Esther Ireland	14 Dec 10	5	5	1½	3	5	3	4	4	2	5	3	6	4	45
Samantha Ireland	6 " 10	5	5	1½	4	5	3½	3	6	4	6	5	6	5	48

13
6
78 Q wp
2
80 "

over 12 52
all 67
PC 328

Dear Aunt Mary

I am a great big girl and do not know how to write yet and I am ashamed to say it how is Thomas I study spelling. Reading Geography ~~and~~ arithmetic pa has not bought our newyears presents yet he is going to. persue I think to get them Cuck and Writing. answer my letter soon

Good bye

your niece Ann May

Jan 12th

Dear Sister.

I feel very stupid this afternoon & fear I shall not be able to say much. Yesterday I had a large washing, which is the cause of my feeling so stupid to day.

This morning I received an invitation to go five miles into the country, to the wedding together with several of my acquaintances. It is very cold & the roads rough, & I do not think it would be prudent for me to go. I seldom visit or go from home at all, except to Church. On the 4th Inst I was called out late daylight — where circumstances compelled me to be Dri & Muse being alone. Oh if you were here how much easier I could talk than write with this head ache of mine; The little boys Palmer & Bruce are doing the best they can to keep quiet while mama writes. Palmer is printing the letters that spell his name from the alphabet — to send to Aunt Mary Ann. he will be five next april, & is beginning to spell, & read easy sentences, Bruce was two in Oct, the children often speak of their cousins in

the east & sometimes wish they could go back to live. It would do us all good to see you & the rest of the friends there. I wish some of them would come west to live. I presume I should consent to go there if Mr M- thought it best for us. My Parents are getting old & while they live I wish to be near them, their children have most all gone on before them to the Spirit Land. Out of eleven only four remain. I sympathize with you in your trials & responsibilities. What you have passed through has undoubtedly had a tendency to wean your affections from earth, were it not for your little ones you might desire to depart, my prayer is that your life may be spared till they are able to stem the current of life alone. Kiss the dear ones for Aunt Myra. Please excuse me, my head feels so bad I cannot write any more. It is nearly time for the children to come from school. They will all write something for you.

Your Affectionate Sister

Myra

Dear Aunt Mary I begin to write regardless of mode and you must criticise. I was so small to remember much when we were at Colesville. But there are some things that I can remember I think you were very kind to us children and me especially for I had the honor of wearing Aunt mary's sunbonnet whenever I wanted to go and see Grandpa calf. I have not time and space to write as much as I want I love to all

Your affectionate nephew

Geo S Martin

Anti-slavery Aggitatos - other side

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The Original Antislavery Agitators.

There is not a man living who wishes more sincerely than I do to see a plan adopted for the abolition of Slavery" April 12. 1786 — George Washington

The scheme, my dear Marquis, which you propose as a precedent to encourage the emancipation of the black people of this country from the state of bondage in which they are held is a striking evidence of the benevolence of your heart.
W. to Lafayette. 1783.

It is the most earnest wish of America to see an entire stop for ever put to the wicked, cruel and unnatural trade in slaves. Meeting at Fairfax Va. July 18 1774 presided over by Washington.

I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just Jefferson's Notes on Slavery in Va 1782.

The King of Great Britain has waged cruel war against human nature itself, violating its most sacred rights of life & liberty, in the persons of a distant people who never offended him, capturing them and carrying them into slavery in another hemisphere or to incur miserable death in the transportation hither Jeff. Draft of the Declaration of Independence

After the year 1800 of the Christian era, there shall be neither Slavery or involuntary servitude in any of the said States (all the territories then in U. S.) Jefferson. Ordinance of 1787 unanimously approved by Congress and signed by Washington

We have seen the mere distinction of color made in the most enlightened period of time a ground of the most oppressive dominion ever exercised by man over man James Madison.

We have found that this evil has preyed upon the very vitals of the Union; and has been prejudicial to all the States, in which it has existed James Madison.

The tariff was only the pretext and discussion and a Southern Confederacy the real object. — The next pretext will be the negro or slavery question. — Andr. Jackson 1833.

Sir I envy neither the heart nor the head of that man from the North, who rises here to defend Slavery on principle John Randolf of Roanoke.

Anti-slavery aggitators on other side

The people of Carolina form two classes, the rich and the poor. The poor are very poor, the rich, who have slaves to do all their work, give them (white) no employ, the slaves may get their living as they can. Brandy, not our book and newspapers, hence they know nothing of the comparative happiness of our country, or of the dangers which threaten it, therefore, they care nothing about it. Dr Francis Marion to

So long as God allows me breath enough to draw my pen I will never, never, never, by word or thought or mind be [illegible] one acre of free territory to the accursed [illegible]

[illegible] Dr Tucker says [illegible]

[illegible] we have are [illegible], and adopting them as our own.

[illegible] consider the voluntary enslaving of one part of the human race by another as utterly inconsistent with the law of God, which enjoins that all things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you do ye even so to them, —

Resolution unanimously adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, 1818

According to an enlightened philosophy each human being retains inherently the right to his own person. He can neither sell himself nor can be legally bound by any act of aggression on his natural rights or liberty. Slavery therefore can never be a legal relation. It rests entirely on force. — The slave being treated as property and not allowed legal rights, cannot be under legal obligations. — Slavery is also inconsistent with the moral nature of man. Each man has an individual worth, significance and responsibility; is bound to the work of self improvement and to labor in a sphere and to labour in a sphere for which his capacity is adapted. To give up his inherent liberty is to disqualify himself for fulfilling the purpose of his being. Such political institutions which have made a considerable degree of advancement do not allow any one to resign his liberty; any

A Bancroft Family

Descendents of John and Jane Bancroft

By John M. Bancroft of New York

Geneologies and Biographies of Ancient Windsor.

Descendants of John and Jane Bancroft Immigrants in 1632
We accept the view that John was the uncle of Thomas Bancroft who came across in 1640

BANCROFT. For the accuracy and interest of this revision we are greatly indebted to JOHN M. BANCROFT of New York city (s. of *Joseph* and Betsey (*Wakefield*) of Reading, Mass.; s. of *Joseph* and Abigail (*Upton*) of R.; s. of *Joseph* and Elizabeth (*Temple*) of R.; s. of Thomas and Lydia Emery (*Deane*) of R.; s. of Thos. and Mary (*Webster*) of R.; s. of Thomas and Sarah (*Poole*) of R.; s. of Thomas and Elizabeth (*Metcalf*) of Dedham, Lynnfield, and Reading, Mass.), who has for many yrs. been engaged on the geneal. of the Bancroft family.

Bancroft, John, came in the *James* from London, Eng., Apl., 1632; arrived June 12 (8 weeks' passage); res. Lynn, Mass.; d. 1637; *Col. Rec. Mass.*, 3 Sept., 1633; *Winthrop's Journal*, 12 Sept., 1663; *Hubbard's Hist. New Eng.*, p. 156. His wid. Jane rec'd 100 acres of ld. at Lynn, 1638. Nov. 19, 1644, Jona. Strattan and Thos. Talmadge, Jr., of Southampton, L.I. (a settlement emanating from Lynn), petitioned for the peaceable sett. of the lot betwixt them, "which formerly was gr. unto Widd. Bancroft," which was consented to. Trad. in the B. family says she m. (2) a man who rem. with her and her ch. to Conn. *Savage* mentions ch. John and Thomas. *Ch. (b. Eng.)*:

1. Anna, m. 13 May, 1647, John **Griffin**; sett. Simsbury; 10 children.
2. John. FAM. 2.
3. Thomas. FAM. 3.
4. Samuel.
5. William [acc. to *Hinman*, for which we find no authority.]

Thomas Bancroft, poet (a native of Swarkstone, on the Trent, Derbyshire, where his parents were buried, and who pr. a vol. of epigrams and epitaphs, 1639, London, Eng.) says of his brother, *John Bancroft*:

> "You sold your land the lighter hence to go
> To foreign coasts, yet (Fate would have it so)
> Did ne'er New England reach, but went with them
> That journey toward New Jerusalem."

Tradition speaks of a sojourn on Long Island and the death there of one of the *three* brothers; that one then went to Mass. and one to Connecticut.

FAM. 2. **John**[2] (*John*[1]), at W., 1645; ld. owner (see p. 151, vol. I.); 1648, 22d 9th mo. was rec. in *Suffolk (Mass.) Deeds*, Robert Saltonstall to N. Dawson of Seabrook, "a house in Windsor, Conn., formerly of Francis Stiles of S., now in occupancy of Thos. Gilbert and John Bancroft"; he m. at W. 3 Dec., 1650, Hanna **Duper** (or Draper, Dupra?), and d. 6 Aug., 1662; wid. m. (2) John **London**; est. distrib. 10 Sept., '62; to eld. s. £14. 11. 00; to each of other ch. £12; to wid. £37; and portions to be pd. the sons at age of 21, to daus. at 18, etc.; Dec. 1, 1664, "Quarter Ct. at Hartford, Hanna Bancroft, pl., *contra* Henry Stiles, deft., in an action of defamation to the damage of £25, the pl. appeareth not." Ditto, agt. Margaret Hayden. *Ch. (O.C.R.)*:

1. John, b. Dec., 1651; prob. sett. Westfield (*W. Rec.*), 12 Mch., 1667; "John Bancroft was gr. 30 acres and a house-lot, on the Fort side"; no rec. of m., or d., or any family.
2. Nathaniel, b. 19 Nov., 1653. FAM. 4.
3. Ephraim, b. 15 June, 1656. FAM. 5.
4. Hannah, b. 6 Apl., 1659.
5. Sarah, b. 26 Dec., 1661; m. Daniel **Sexton**, 28 Dec., 1682; sett. Westfield; 3 ch. before 1697.

FAM. 3. **Thomas**[2] (*John*[1]), at Springfield, Mass., 8 Dec., 1653; in 1654 res. there at the "lower wharf," now Thompsonville (Enf.), Conn., as see *S. Rec. of Possessions*. His cattle-mark was "ye top of both ears cut off and a little piece cut out of ye off eare." He m. (1) Margaret (dau. Samuel) **Wright** of S., 8 Dec., 1653; m. (2) ——.* He was a farmer; while at Westfield a selectman; (see his affidavit in regard to his bro.-in-law, John Griffen, p. 477, Vol. I.); in 1668 he was at Westfield; sold farm

* J. M. B. thinks that the Hannah (dau. Samuel) Gardner of Hadley, who (acc. to Boltwood's *Hist. Hadley*, p. 497), m. *Nathaniel* Bancroft, 1675, really m. this Thomas Bancroft, and was the 2d wife, who m. (2) John Barber.

there in 1680, Mch. 20; returned to Enfield, where he d. 14 Dec., 1684; will dated in Nov. of that year and upon rec. at S.; gave s. Thomas, Jr., 15 acres of land on S. side of Woxonoak river, belonging to Springfield; to sons Samuel, John, and Nath'l, equal shares at Enf.; £7 each to daus. Anne and Rebecca; house, etc., to his loving wife. The will, being unsigned, could not be estab., and est. was not sett. until 3 Feb., 1703–4, before which time the wid. had m. (2) John **Barber** of S.* *Children (b. prob. at Enf.), the first seven by 1st wife:*

1. Lydia, b. 6, 2d mo., 1655.
2. Margaret, b. 16, 8 mo., 1656; d. prob. un'd. 3 Feb., 1703–4.
3. Anna, b. 1, 7 mo., 1658; bu. 30, 6 mo., 1659.
4. Thomas, b. 21, 11 mo., 1659; was living at time of father's death, and (presumably) at the sett. of his est., 1703–4, when he is thus ment.: "to the eld. s., Thomas B., Jr., or to his issue, a double portion, £10. 12 4." From *North. Rec.*: "Nath'l Edwards & Thos. Shelding of N., for securing [Thos. Bancroft] an offender, a day and a night, was allowed 3*d.* apiece, and Isiah Shelding one shilling on s^d allowance, as also Sam^ll Strong for his mare to Westfield to apprehend ye s^d Bancroft, as also p^d to John Taylor, who went to W. after s^d Bancroft — to be p^d as aforesaid." Among others, he was an early sett. at Cape May, N. J., and had located or purchased a lot there prior to 1700—Beasley's *Early Hist. Cape May Co., N. J.* Samuel B. (presumably his s.) m. Margaret **Miller** at Easthampton, L. I., 1717; had one or more ch. there; soon after, was at Cape May; and abt. 1750 d., leaving wid. Margaret and numerous ch., from whom desc. can be traced to present day. Prob. Thomas, Jr. was a seafaring man.
5. Anna, b. 5 May, 1663; m. James **Sexton**; was living 1703-4.
6. Lydia, b. 6, 2 mo., 1665.
7. Julia, "dau. Thos. and Marg't B.," d. 30 July, 1666.—*Springfield Rec.*
8. Samuel (Lieut.), b. 25 Jan., 1667. FAM. 6.
9. Ruth, b. 29 Aug., 1670, at Westfield; m. John **Stiles** of W., and, after being a mother 13 times (twice with twins), d. in child-birth, 1714. *Pres. Stiles's MS.* says, "being left an orphan at an early age, was given to Mr. Fowler of Westfield, to bring up; when of age she lived with Rev. Mr. Glover of Springfield, and was in the fortified house when it was besieged by Ind., 1675." This does not say she was of age when living in the fort-house. Rev. Peletiah Glover sett. at S., 1661, and d. there 29 Mch., 1692.
10. John, d. Enf., 26 Feb., 1684; ment. in father's will.
11. Rebecca, b. Enf., 23 Feb., 1680; m. — **Gillet**.
12. Nath'l, b. 24 Oct., 1683; m. Ruth **Halle**; res. W. Springfield; desc. in Granville, Mass., & Ohio.

FAM. 4. **Nathaniel**[3] (*John*,[2] *John*[1]), took his share of the paternal est. in W.; m. Hannah (dau. John) **Williams**, 26 Dec., 1677; rem. to W.; rem. to W'field; wounded by Indians; d. 10 Feb., 1724; she d. 15 Mch., 1728. *Ch. (b. W.):*

1. John, b. 24 Jan., 1678-9; d. at Westfield 14 Oct. 1749; m. (1) Hannah **Bridgman**, 1716; (2) Kezia **Smith**. *Issue:* 1. Ann, b. 1716. 2. Edward, b. 1718.† 3. Ann, b. 1720. 4. Capt. John, b. 1722, m. (1) Mercy **Ashley**: (2) Miriam **Burt**; has desc. in Westfld, Mass. 5. Elizabeth, b. 1727; m. B. **Fowler**. 6. Dan'l, b. 1730, d. 1733. 7. Desire, b. 1738, d. 1742.
2. Nathaniel, b. 25 Sept., 1680; m. (1) Elizabeth **Root**; (2) dau. Capt. John **Higley** of Simsbury; he d. Westfield 30 June, 1740; 8 ch., none mentioned in will. This prob. 7 Jan., 1744 (*Northampton Rec.*), mentions "Joseph Higley of Simsbury, the s. of Brewster H., my wife's bro." Adm. of est. of Elizabeth Bancroft to Brewster Higley, Sen., who app. his son att'y. See *Higley*.
3. Benjamin, b. 6, d. 13 June, 1684.
4. Elizabeth, b. 30 Oct., 1682; m. Consider **Moseley**.
5. Edward, b. 30 May, 1688, d. 1707.

FAM. 5. **Ephraim**[3] (*John*,[2] *John*[1]) had the homestead at W., which he sold to Nath'l Bissell; m. 5 May, 1681, Sarah (dau. John, Sen.) **Stiles**; *C. R.* says "Eph'm B.'s wife d. 9 Oct., 1727, æ. 65 or 66." He contrib. 1*s.* 6*d.* to the Conn. Fund for Relief of Poor of other Colonies, 1675. He d. 1727; will dated 17 Oct., '27; pres. by Nath'l B., 6 July, 1730. Wid. m. (2) Thomas **Phillips**. *Ch. (b. W.—W. Rec.):*

1. Ephraim, b. 8 Feb., 1681-2. FAM. 7.
2. John, b. 8 Feb., 1685; d. 2 May, 1686.—*Col. Rec.*
3. Sarah, b. 6 Feb., 1686-7; d. 1727, æ. 40.
4. John, b. 19 Dec., 1690; m. Rachel (dau. Henry) **Stiles**, b. 21 June, 1696; he d. 21 (18 acc. *C.R.*) May, 1755; will, exhib. July, '55, by his wid., men. 'Siah Munsell and a s. of his bro. Thos. Wid. Rach. m. (2) Thos. **Parsons**. *Issue by Bancroft:* 1. Rachel, b. 21 Aug., 1723, d. 3 July, 1735.—*C. R.*
5. Benjamin, b. 10 May, 1694; dr. 29 Mch., 1716, æ. 21.
6. Nathaniel, b. 1698; living 1727.
7. Daniel, b. 16 July, 1700.
8. Thomas, b. 14 Dec. 1703; acc. to our 1st edit. d. young; but *J. M. B.* says he m. FAM. 8.

FAM. 6. **Samuel**[3] (*Thomas*,[2] *John*[1]), b. Enf., d. (So.) W. 29 Nov., 1742, in 74th year. In 1684 Dec. 12, a grant was made, "upon his father's motion," of an allotment at Enf., 26 acres in all, provided he dwell there 7 years. He sold land in Enf. adjoining land of his bro. Nathaniel, Apl. 24, 1691, and mentions Hannah Barber as his father's relict. Mch. 11, 1696/7, he witnessed a deed by Nath'l Bissell to Thomas Holcombe, of ld. at Sims.; and 23 Mch., 1796/7, the said Bissell of W., "in consideration of my affection for my dau. Hannah, wife of Samuel Bancroft," deeds to

* This John Barber's will, proved 13 Feb., 1711/12, makes bequests to three of these step-children, viz.: to "daus.-in-law," Ruth *Bancroft*, (why should he not call her by her married name of Stiles, in view of the fact that she had 11 or 12 children at this time?) Rebecca *Gillet*, to whom he gave "all their mother's wearing apparel;" and to his "son-in-law" Nathaniel Bancroft.—*J. M. B.*

† This **Edward**, b. 1718, had two sons. The eldest, Dr. **Edward**, b. 9 Jan., 1744, a noted phys. in Hartford and Suffield, went abroad with Benj. Franklin and Silas Deane, and d. in London, Eng. His grandson, **William C.**, is now Col. of 19th Regt., British Army. Another grandson, Rev. Thomas Davis Lamb, was late rector of West Hackney, London. Edward's second s., Dr. **Daniel**, b. 2 Nov., 1748, was surgeon on Br. war vessel at Halifax and Wilmington; d. Philadelphia, 1796.

him land E. of the Conn. River. Oct. 4, 1704, James Saxton acquits John Barber of Springfield and Samuel Bancroft of W., concerning the est. of his father-in-law, Thomas Bancroft. Feb. 23, 1709/10, he is mentioned as *Lieut.* Sam'l; he owned the Covenant in (E.) W. ch., Nov. 10, 1700. In Queen Anne's War he left W. 10 July, 1711, ret. 12 Oct., same yr.; served in Capt. Moses Dimond's Co In 1710 Sgt. Sam'l B. was one of ch. com. to build a church, with discretionary power. In 1717 he was on a school committee; in 1714 on a com. for draining lands with Roger Wolcott and Sam'l Rockwell. As his name does not appear on petition of E.W. inhabitants who wished to settle a minister, 1694, he prob. had not then removed from Enfield. He m. (1) Hannah (dau. Nathaniel and Mindwell, dau. Dea. John *Moore*) **Bissell** of W., who d. 24 Jan., 1708/9, in 38th yr. (*E. W. O. et C. R.*); she was b. 12 Jan., 1670; he m. (2) wid. Joanna **Allyn**, 23 Feb., 1709/10, who was a sister of Ebenezer Gilbert and wid. of Thomas Allyn; she was b. 22 Apl., 1676, and d. 8 Jan., 1773, æ. 97. Lieut. Samuel B. d. 29 Nov., 1742, in 74th yr. (*E. W. O. et C. R.*); will prob. 1 Feb., 1742/3. *Ch.* (*all by 1st wife*):

1. Margaret, b. 15 May, 1698; living 1742; m., 6 ch.
2. Eunice, b. 29 Dec., 1700; living 1742.
3. Nathaniel, b. 4 July, 1703. FAM. 9.
4. Elizabeth, b. 27 Mch., 1706; living 1742.

FAM. 7. **Ephraim**[4] (*Ephraim*,[3] *John*,[2] *John*[1]), res. Scantic, E.W.; one of signers for ferry at W.Pt., May, 1755; m. 17 Mch., 1715, Frances **Phelps** of W. "Eph'm B.'s (Sen.) wife d. 14 May, 1752."—*C. R.* His s. Isaac adm'r on his est. 29 June, 1767; estate mentioned 29 May, 1770. *Children:*

1. Sarah, b. 20 Dec., 1715-16. [*C. R.*
2. Ephraim, b. 8 Oct., 1717; d. prob. 27 Nov. 1727.—
3. Ephraim, b. 12 Mch., 1718-19. FAM. 10.
4. Isaac, b. 17 Aug., 1720. Fam. 11.
5. Hannah, b. 20 July, 1723.
6. Eliza (or Ellis), d. 23 July, 1750.
7. Ruth, *d.* 28 Jan., 1727-8.—*W. Rec.*
9. Ruth, b. 7 Sept., 1729.

FAM. 8. **Thomas**[4] (*Ephraim*,[3] *John*,[2] *John*[1]), m. Martha, or Mercy (prob. the latter) ———; res. W. 1759; adm'r 1779 on John Bancroft's estate (?) *Children:*

1. Sarah, b. 15 Dec., 1728; m. 2 Jan., 1751, Jacob **Munsell**, who was b. 21 Apl., 1732; she d. 28 Nov., 1783.
2. Esther, b. 21 Nov., 1729.—*W. Rec.*
3. Thomas, b. 10 Oct., 1731, "d. 6. Aug., 1758, at Lake George," (*W. Rec.*) in war service; John B. adm'r of his estate, app. 6 Mch., 1759; Thos. and John B. gave bonds. WILL—"I, Thomas B., Jr. of W., do will and declare that if I should not return home from the campaign, I am engaged . . . to my father and bro. John . . . . . and £8 to Abigail Booth"—prob. his affianced.
4. John (Dea.), b. 31 Dec., 1733. FAM. 12.
5. Edward, b. 15 July, 1737. FAM. 13.
6. Abel, b. 25 July, 1740, d. 1796-7; 15 Aug. '96, Dea. John quit-claimed lands at Wpg., E. W., given to John and Abel by their father Thos. B., John, Jr., a witness; Abel m. and had 5 ch., one of whom was a dau. *Alice*, who, 26 Jan., 1797, with Joel Elmer, deeded land to Thos. Bancroft, bd. E. by land of heirs of Edw. Bancroft, W. on ld. of Isaac B., 3d, owned lately by Abel, dec'd; 1-5 thereof has desc. by right of heirship to sd. Alice. She d. 2 Dec., 1803, æ. 85 yrs., 9 mo.
7. Ann, b. 8 Oct., 1744; mother to Isaac Bancroft, 3d.
8. Nathaniel, b. 17 Oct., 1748; d. 20 Apl., 1768.

FAM. 9. **Nathaniel**[4] (*Sam'l*,[3] *Thos.*,[2] *John*[1]), m. (1) Dorothy ———; (2) Ann (dau. John and Hannah *Newberry*) **Wolcott**, 21 Dec., 1732, who was b. 9 Dec., 1711, and d. 2 May, 1766, in 55th yr. (*E. W. O.*). He owned over 150 acres of land, and slaves, Cæsar and Phœbe, who had three daus., the eld. of whom (Phebe) rescued James Bancroft from drowning, when a small boy. Nath'l B.'s will, dated 8 June, 1774, ment. Sam'l, Abner, and Thos. (who had the homestead), and "my son Nathaniel's son Nathaniel," who was to have "my gold button," etc. *Query*—Was there a son not incl. here, or was Dr. ——- Dickinson, husband of Hannah, named Nathaniel? A codicil to this will, 4 Oct., 1778, made Cæsar a freeman. Nath'l B. d. '79.—*C. R.* *Ch.:*

1. Mary, b. 6 Jan., 1730; prob. m. David **Allyn**, 27 Feb., 1753; she d. 14 Jan., 1753[4], in 23d yr. — *Wby. Old Graveyard.* David Allyn m. (2) Miriam **Parsons** of Somers, Conn., 14 Nov., 1755.
2. Sibel, b. 17 Oct., 1734; d. 28 May, 1804, æ. 70; m. William **Rockwell** of So. W.; he d. 1825, æ. 93.
3. Hannah, b. 22 July, 1735; m. Dr. **Dickinson** of Marlboro', Conn., where she d., æ. 90.
4. Samuel, b. 29 Oct., 1737. FAM. 14.
5. Abner, b. 30 Oct., 1739. FAM. 15.
6. Jerusha, b. 11 Apl., 1742; m. Oliver **Loomis** of So. W., 2 Sept., 1762; he d. before 1787; she rem. to res. with her dau., Mrs. Miller, at Saugerfield, N. Y.
7. Thomas, b. 26 Sept., 1746. FAM. 16.

[Nath'l is cr. in *C. R.* with ch. d. 3 Feb., 1738; ch. d. 17 Mch., 1740; ch. d. May, 1741.

FAM. 10. **Ephraim**[5] (*Eph.*,[4] *Eph.*,[3] *John*,[2] *John*[1]), m. 6 Dec., 1739, Esther **Gleason** of Enf., who d. at W., Dec. 1, 1809, æ. 96; rem. to Torrington, Conn., where he d. 1791, æ. 78. He was a farmer and tavern-keeper, and lieut. in Revol. war, much respected by all. His wife was a woman of ability, well able to keep rude soldiers and other visitors in order. *Ch.:*

1. Triphena, b. 10 Aug., 1740; m. (1) — **Pease**; (2) Capt. Silas **Fowler** of Southwick, Mass., where, and at Enf., she has desc.
2. Allis (Ellis?), b. 4 Mch., 1741-2; d. 13 July, 1750, (*C. R.*), æ. 8 yr., 4 mo., 9 d.—*E. W. O.*
3. Esther, b. 28 Dec., 1744; m. Capt. Roswell **Coe** of Torrington; *s. p.*
4. Ruth, b. 13 Dec., 1746; m. — **Barbour**, a Scotch tailor of Winchester, Conn.; she d. at Burke, Vt.
5. Ephraim, b. 6 Feb., 1748; d. 18 Oct., 1749; *W. R.* say, "Ephm., s. of Ephm. and Esther, d. 6 July, 1750"; *C. R.* gives same date; tombstone (*E. O.*), adds "1 yr., 5 mo."
6. Ephraim, b. 24 Feb., 1751; d. 1809. Fam. 17.
7. Noadiah, b. 19 Dec., 1753; d. 1827. Fam. 18.
8. Oliver, b. 22 (or 24) July, 1757; d. 1840. Fam. 19.

Fam. 11. **Isaac**[5] (*Eph.*,[4] *Eph.*,[3] *John*,[2] *John*[1]), memb. ch. Scantic, E. W.; m. (1) Abigail **Eggleston**, 17 Dec., 1741, who d. 17 June, 1758; (2) Lydia **Chapin** of Springfield, 20 June, 1765. He d. 5 June, 1808, æ. 88. *Ch.* (*b. E. W.*):

1. Isaac, b. 8 Sept., 1742. Fam. 20.
2. Abigail, b. 23 Aug., 1744.
3. Eunice, b. 16 Feb., 1747; d. unm'd, 29 May, 1800.
4. Jerusha, b. 21 Jan., 1749. } one of these
5. Lois, b. 5 Nov., 1752. } daus. m. a
6. Hannah, b. 29 Mch., 1755. } **Morton**.

(prob., also, the following should find a place here — perhaps all by *2d mar.*):

7. Isaiah, d. 30 Dec., 1828.
8. Daniel; poss. the D. who d. 19 Mch., 1813, æ. 40.
9. David, b. 4 Nov., 1774; m. Chloe **Webster**, 1802; she b. 8 Mch., 1772; d. 16 Dec., 1850, æ. 78 (*K. M.*); he d. 9 Aug., 1862. *Issue (all living 1889):*
   1. David Owen, b. 20 Apl., 1803; bp. 2 Dec., 1804 —*S. B.*
   2. Chloe, b. 18 Jan., 1807.
   3. Eunice, b. 8 Nov., 1812; bp. 11 Sept., 1813.—*S. B.*
10. Benjamin, b. June, 1776 (or '77); d. 9 Dec., 1854, æ. 77; wife, Anna **Smith** (dau. Alex.), d. 14 July, 1821, æ. 41.—*E. W. O.* He m. (2) 4 Jan., 1823, Dosia **Goodale**; she d. 30 Dec., 1828. *Issue:*
    1. John S., res. Wpg. (1889), æ. abt. 82 yrs.; farmer.
    2. Henry, d. æ. abt. 74, at Forestville, Conn., where his s. is a clockmaker.
    3. ——, m. a **Post**, and was æ. 80 in 1889.
    4. ——, m. a **Harrington**; res., 1889, in Dakota.—*Letter of Mrs. J. A. Post of No. Newbury, Shiawassee Co., Mich.*
11. Lydia.
12. Ruth.

Fam. 12. **John**[5] (Dea.) (*Thos.*,[4] *Ephm.*,[3] *John*,[2] *John*[1]), res. Scantic; blacksmith, and during Rev. war a gunsmith; a musket made by him is now in poss. of his gt.-gd.-son, Dr. F. J. Bancroft of Denver, Colo.; he m. Anna **Phelps** of Sharon, Conn., who d. 1790, æ. 54; he d. 20 Mch., 1800, æ. 66. *Ch.:*

1. Anna, b. 22 Oct., 1763-4; m. Caleb **Jones** of Enf.; she d. 1839.
2. John, b. 12 Oct., 1767. Fam. 21.

Fam. 13. **Edward**[5] (*Thomas*,[4] *Ephr'm*,[3] *John*,[2] *John*[1]), d. before June, 1797; m. Sarah ———. *Children:*

1. Sarah, b. 5 Jan., 1770.
2. Thomas, b. 3 Aug., 1771. Fam. 22.
3. Chloe, b. 19 June, 1773.
4. Editha, b. 20 Feb., 1778; probably m. Josiah **Brown**; 1799, 6 Feb., Josiah & Editha Brown sold land bd. E. on Chloe Bancroft's ld., S. on ld. set out to wid. Sarah as her right of dower, W. on Sarah B.'s 2d land.
5. Chloe, b. 13 Sept., 1781; bp. 5 July, 1807.—*S. B.*
6. Nathaniel, b. 28 Oct., 1783.

Fam. 14. **Samuel**[5] (Lieut.) (*Nath'l*,[4] *Samuel*,[3] *Thomas*,[2] *John*[1]), was in Rev. Army as lieutenant—a letter is still extant, written by him in 1776 from Roxbury Camp. Was owner of schooner *Clarissa*, Capt. Wood, to W. I., with tobacco, for sugar, molasses, rum, etc. He was an endorser for John Fitch of E.W., the steamboat inventor, and had to pay; m. Jerusha (dau. Josiah and Sarah *Chamberlain*) **Foote** of Colchester, Conn., 16 Dec., 1760; she b. 14 June, 1739, d. 26 Mch., 1803, æ. 64 (*C. R.*); he d. S. W. 1 July, 1830, æ. 93. *Children* (*b. E. W.*, *bp. C. R.*):

1. Anna, b. 30 Oct., 1761; d. 1827; m. Joseph **Newberry** of E. W.
2. Anson, b. 19, bp. 20 Nov. 1763. Fam. 23.
3. Laysel, bp. 23 Aug., 1767; m. 2 sisters by name of **Olmstead**; res. Sandy Hill, N. Y.; rem. West; ch.
4. Jerusha, b. 12, bp. 24 Sept., 1769; d. May, 1854; insane.
5. Polly (Mary), b. 8, bp. 14 June, 1772; m. Augustus **McKennie** of Albany or Sandy Hill, N. Y.; d. 1814.
6. Sophia, b. 20, bp. 30 Apl., 1775; m. William **Hodgett**, res. Westfield, Mass.; in 1869 res. Springfield, wh. she d. æ. 95; 3 children.
7. Samuel, b. 30 Mch., bp. 6 Apl., 1777. Fam. 24.
8. Theodosia (Dosha), b. 24 May, bp. 27 June, 1779; m. Capt. Owen (s. Dr.) **Tudor** of E. W.
9. Solomon, b. 12 May, 1783; bp. 23 May, 1784; d. 1819, drowned in fording river at Sandy Hill, N.Y.; m. Harriet **Morrills** of Hartford, who d. 1 May, 1870, æ. 84, at Port Chester, N.Y.; her dau. Martha m. Capt. **Chalker** of Saybrook, Conn.

Fam. 15. **Abner**[5] (*Nath'l*,[4] *Samuel*,[3] *Thomas*,[2] *John*[1]), m. Sarah **Bryant** of Manchester, Conn.; he d. 16 Aug., 1814, æ. 75 (*R.D.*); she d. So. W. 18 Jan., 1816, æ. 77 (*C.R.*); *R. D.* adds, "one of our best folks"; *C. R.* says, "Abner's wife d. 13 Mch., 1767"; if so, the ch. b. 1765 and 1766 (see note below,) must have been by this—a first marriage. *Children:**

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* **Abner's** family given from *Mrs. Stiles's MS.* The *C. R.* give the following *baptismal* record of a family of Abner, prob. the same, viz.: *Eunice*, bp. 28 Oct., 1764; —, bp. 8 Mch., 1767; —, bp. 6 Mch., 1768; —, bp. 8 Oct., 1771; —, bp. 14 June, 1772. He is also credited with—ch. d. 9 or 10 Feb., 1765; ch. d. 2 Jan., 1766; ch. d. 6 Mch., 1768; ch. d. 31 Mch., 1770; ch. bu. 20 July, 1776; ch. d. 29 Oct., 1779.

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1. Abner, b. 1768, d. 28 Jan., 1823, æ. 53 (*R. D.*); m. 10 June, 1792, Lucy B. **Webb** of So.W., who d. 2 Jan., 1822, æ. 56 (*R. D.*). *Issue:*
   1. Julia, b. 17 Sept., 1800, bp. 7 June, 1801 (*E. W. et C. R.*), who m. May, 1819, Wm. F. **Andross.** [See *Andross.*]
2. Eli, joiner; rem. West; m. Polly **Mason** of W. Springfield, Mass., 10 Mch., 1801. *Ch.* (*bp. E. W.*):
   1. Wm., bp. 19 Sept., 1802 (*C. R.*); lawyer, d. Mich.
2. Mary, bp. 27 May, 1804 (*C. R.*); m. **Waterhouse** or Watrous) of Avon, N. Y., where she d.; had (*a*) *Abby*; (*b*) *William.*
3. } Two others d. inf.
4. }
3. Sarah, d. Hartford, May, 1854, æ. 84. bu. So. W.; "an excellent woman, of strong mental powers; she partook of the virtues of her excellent mother."
4. Eunice, bp. 28 Oct., 1764.

FAM. 16. **Thomas**[5] (*Nathaniel,*[4] *Samuel,*[3] *Thomas,*[2] *John*[1]), b. So. W. 26 Sept., 1746; farmer, Rev. soldier; m. Lydia (dau. David and ——— *Day*) **Mason** of Ell., b. 10 June, 1745; d. 2 Nov., 1812; (*R. D.* gives date of *bu.* as 1 Nov.) A descendant of Maj. John of Peq. fame; "a very good and pious woman, a very Puritan." *Ch.:**

1. Nathaniel, b. 7 Mch., 1773; prob. the N. (s. Thos.) who m. (acc. to *Mrs. Stiles' MS.*) Thankful **Mason** of W. Hartford, who d. at Avon, N. Y. *Ch.:*
   1. Jonathan Mason, a "Christian" minister; m.; d. Jefferson, O.; had (*a*) Eliza m. an Alger and has a dau. *Mary* who m. Thos. **Fricker** of Jefferson, O.; (*b*) ———, who m. her cousin, Wm. (s. David) **Bancroft.**
   2. Almira, b. 9 May, 1798; m. and d. Avon, N. Y.
   3. Harvey, 14 Mch., 1800; m., rem. to Wis.; ch.
   4. Nathan, b. 18 July, 1803; m.; res. Medina, N.Y.;
   5. David, m., res. Avon, N.Y.; children. [2 ch.
   6. Chauncey, b. 20 Mch., 1813.
2. Betty, m. 22 Jan., 1792, Jona. **Wells** of Wardsboro, Vt.; res. Wby. (now Bloomfield), Conn.; ch. d. Canandaigua, N. Y.; 7 ch.
3. Zerviah, b. abt. 1768; perhaps the ch. bp. 1 Jan., 1769 (*C. R.*); m. Augustus **King** of E. W. 5 Nov., 1786; d. Hfd. 18 Sept., 1813, æ. 45. *Issue*, see *King.*
4. Lydia, m. 11 Sept., 1805 (or 12 Sept., 1803), Roderick **Spencer** of Hfd.; she d. Madison, N.Y., 7 Oct., 1862; he d. at M. 11 Mch., 1871.
5. James, b. 21 Aug., bp. 19 Sept., 1778.—*C. R.* FAM. 25.

FAM. 17. **Ephraim**[6] (*Ephm.,*[5] *Ephm.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), b. W., 24 Feb., 1751; rem. to Torrington; farmer; d. from injuries rec'd by fall from scaffold in barn; res. 2 m. N. of his father's tavern; m. 2 Nov., 1775, Jemima (dau. Moses and Sarah *Roberts*) **Loomis,** b. 9 July, 1758; d. 19 Feb., 1841. *Ch.* (*b. Torrington*):

1. Miles, b. 27 July, 1776; d. 1795.
2. Tryphena, b. 5 Feb., 1779; living 1867; m. (1) —— **Wright** of New Hart., by whom she had one ch. res. Norfolk, Conn.; (2) a **Bradley.**
3. Jemima, b. 30 May, 1781; d. 22 July, 1863; m. David **Grant;** 10 ch.; Mr. G. bro. to the missionary Grant.
4. Huldah, b. 12 Aug., 1784; d. 2 July, 1788.
5. Oliver, b. 9 June, 1787; d. 16 Apl., 1857; a printer 30 yrs. in N. Y. city and 8 yrs. in Boston; um'd.
6. Moses, b. 27 Aug., 1789; d. 25 Feb., 1855; clerk; cloak-maker; wholesale peddler; farmer; um'd.
7. Horace, b 30 Sept., 1791; d. 1839. FAM. 26.
8. Reuben (Dr.), b. 3 Aug., 1795; d. 1847; studied with Dr. Lyman of Torrington, and Dr. Carrington of Colebrook; a skillful phys. and surgeon; performed many difficult operations; m. 5 Oct., 1822, Angelina **Bennett,** who d. 17 Oct., 1828, æ. 27 yr., 3 mo., 1 day. He d. Oxford, N.Y. *Issue:*
   1. Caroline, b. Oxford, N. Y., 1833; m. Fred. C. **Whipple,** lawyer of Ann Arbor, Mich.

FAM. 18. **Noadiah**[6] (*Ephm.,*[5] *Ephm.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), b. Torrington (or W.), Conn., 13 (or 19) Dec., 1753; res. and kept the tavern on old place, and carried on the farm; d. 28 Nov., 1827 (or '29), æ. 73; m. Jerusha (dau. Capt. Epaphras and Mary *Hills*) **Loomis,** b. 6 Feb., 1761; d. 6 Oct., 1827. *Ch.* (*b. Torrington*):

1. Erastus, b. 11 Oct., 1782.
2. Luman, b. 23 Mch., 1784; shoemaker; res. Harwinton, Conn.; m. Clarissa (dau. Lewis) **Catlin;** ch.
3. Dyar (or Noadiah — *Torr. Rec.*), b. 12 Apl., 1786. FAM. 27.
4. Jerusha, b. 19 May, 1788; m. James **Wilcox,** an able mechanic; rem. to Smithfield, N. Y., where he became a celebrity, a J. P. and man of ppy.; rem. to La Harpe, Ill.; ch.
5. Erastus (M. D., Hon. from Yale Coll., 1855), b. Torr. 31 Oct., 1790; m. Amanda **Bradley;** he d. 30 May, 1869. *Issue:*
   1. Charles F., m. Emma **Faves,** 2 Oct., 1847.
   2. Caroline M., m. a **Phelps;** res. Wolcottville, Conn.
6. Chester, b. 23 Nov., 1792; m.; ch.
7. Warren, b. abt. 1795; m.; ch.
8. Clarissa, m. a **Seymour** of Wolcottville, Conn., a man of great personal worth, who d. yg., leaving a s. George.
9. Charlotte, m. Miles **Beach** of Goshen, Conn; ch.

FAM. 19. **Oliver**[6] (Dr.) (*Ephm.,*[5] *Ephm.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), b. Torrington, Conn., 24 July, 1757; d. 18 Aug., 1840, at Newtown, Conn.; studied m. with Dr. Hodges of Torr.; surgeon in Rev. army at Ticonderoga and Saratoga, and rec'd a silver medal fm. U. S. for services; sett. 1782, at Newtown, Conn., and gained an extensive practice; late in life rec'd a pension; was noted for eccentricity and originality; m. Sarah (dau. Benj.) **Hawley,** who d. 17 Feb., 1839, æ. 81. *Ch.:*

1. Elizabeth O., b. 24 Aug., 1782; d. 26 Jan., 1861; um'd.
2. Rulandus, b. 23 June, 1785. FAM. 28.
3. LeGrand, b. Newtown, Conn., 8 Apl., 1789; m. 1816/8, Polly (dau. Stephen & Sabra) **Burwell** of N., who d. 22 May, 1828, æ. 36; read law with Judge Chapman; commenced practice at Waterbury, Conn.; removed to Pottsville, Pa.; was a noted political stump-speaker; d. Marquette, Mich., 4 May, 1864. *Issue:*
   1. Catherine Sophia, b. Waterbury, Conn., 26 Sept., 1817; m. Geo. **Burroughs,** Bridgeport, Conn., 26 Dec., 1837.
   2. Elizabeth Sarah, b. 22 July, 1821, at Berwick, Pa.; m. Stephen R. **Gay,** 11 June, 1846; d. Detroit, Mich., 17 Nov., 1863.

FAM. 20. **Isaac**[6] (*Isaac,*[5] *Ephm.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), farmer; res. Hornellsville, N. Y.; he d. 22 Apl., 1818. By Ann (dau. Thos.) Bancroft he had:

1. Isaac, b. prob. 1765–7. FAM. 29.

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* *C.R.* credits Thos. with —, bp. 11 Feb., 1771; —, bp. 14 Mch., 1773; —, bp. 10 Sept., 1778; —, bp. Mch., 1782.

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Isaac[6] Bancroft m. Mary **Barrett**, b. 9 Feb., 1746, and who d. Nov., 1804, by whom he had:

2. Mary, b. 2 May, 1767, at E. W.; m. Seth **Stowell** of New Berlin, N. Y.
3. Submit, b. 29 Sept., 1768-9, at E. W.; m. Daniel **Allen** of E. W.
4. Ezekiel, b. 11 Mch., 1773; m. Sarah **Scribner**, New Berlin, N. Y.; 10 children.
5. Joel, b. 8 Apl., 1774; m. (1) Lydia **Burlingame**, who d. 1859; (2) ——; he d. 2 July, 1848.
6. Aurilla (or Amelia), b. E. W., 8 Apr., 1779; m. Nath'l **Stowell**.
7. Miriam, b. 29 Oct., 1781, at E. W.; m. Martin **Sackett**; res. (1872) Plym'th, Ch'ngo Co., N.Y.
8. Isaac, b. 8 (30?) Mch., 1781 (83?); m. Anna **Campbell**.
9. Lucina, b. E. W., 24 Aug., 1784; m. Jno. **Campbell**.
10. Luke, b. E. W., 5 Nov., 1785 (86?); m. (1) Sarah **Thresher**; (2) Mrs. Lydia **Strunk**; res. Farmersville, Catt. Co., N. Y.
11. Francis, b. E. W., 21 Jan., 1788; m. Esther **Warner**.
12. Hannah, b. E. W., 17 Mch., 1790; m. Jesse **Campbell**.

FAM. 21. **John**[6] (*Dea. John,*[5] *Thos.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), m. Penelope (dau. Stephen) **Heath**, 19 Aug., 1790, who d. 12 Aug., 1843; he d. 3 Sept., 1857, æ. 89 yr., 10 mo.; blacksmith and farmer; joined ch. 1808; lived a consistent Christian. *Ch.:*

1. John, b. 4 June, 1791. FAM. 30.
2. Anna, b. 4 Oct., 1793; d. 29 Mch., 1856; m. Leman **Barnes** of W.
3. Lucinda, b. 13 Jan., 1796; m. John F. **Buckland**, 19 May, 1824; res. (1869) W. Pt.
4. Alfred, b. 25 Jan., 1798; res. Suff.; d. there, 1 Feb., 1860; m. Minerva **Clark** 3 Mch., 1824 (*E. W.*); she d. 14 July, 1827, æ. 31; bu. Scantic, E. W.; m. (2) Mary **Rudd**. *Issue by 1st wife:*
   1. John Clark, d. 3 Apl., 1825, æ. 2.
   2. ch. d. 10 July, 1837, æ. 12 hours.
   3. ch. d. 26 Jan., 1832, æ. 3.—*S. B.*
5. Horace, b. 1 Apl., 1802; res. Brooklyn, N.Y.; hat mfr.; d. 25 Sept., 1873; m. Rachel **Raynor** of Hempstead, L. I., 1833. *Issue:*
   1. Mary L., b. 25 Sept., 1834; m. Stephen L. **Lane**.
   2. Amanda D., b. 16 Dec., 1835; m. Gardner G. **Edmunds**, 22 Jan., 1859.
   3. Rachel Ann, b. 23 Aug., 1842; m. Wm. **Barstow**, 9 Feb., 1864.
6. Caleb Jones, b. 19 Sept., bp. 19 Nov., 1804 — *S. B.* FAM. 31.
7. David Phelps, b. 23 Feb., 1807; d. 26 July, 1854; unm'd.
8. Lorinda, b. 2 July, bp. 20 Aug., 1809 (*S. B.*); m. Jerome **Griswold**, 16 Mch. '71; res. Poq., W., Ct.
9. Louisa, b. 27 Nov., 1815, bp. 2 June, 1816 (*S. B.*); m. Harvey **Prior**, Jr., 10 Sept., 1835; res. E. W.

FAM. 22. **Thomas**[6] (*Edw.,*[5] *Thos.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), a man of remarkable will; when the town authorities opened a road near his house, which did not meet with his approval, he declared that he and his should not use the road — and faithfully kept his word, to the great discomfort of his family; m. Diademia ——, who d. 2 Dec., 1863, æ. 85 yrs., 9 mos. *Ch.:*

1. Horace. FAM. 32. | 2. Chauncey. | 3. Levi.
4. Polly, d. after living over 30 yrs. in an excavation scooped out of a hillside, during which time she refused aid from relatives, or from town authorities.
5. Salome, m. Alonzo **Wetherby** of Hollis, N. H.; had a dau. Betsey, who. m. Leicester **King** of Suff., 19 July, 1835.
6. Miranda, m. John **Roberts**; had a dau.

FAM. 23. **Anson**[6] (*Samuel,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Samuel,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), m. Miriam (dau. Timo.) **Elmer** of So. W. He d. 22 Mch., 1807, æ. 42; was killed (while racing horses on the highway from the old meeting-house, south to Podunk—the reputed race-course of that day. She d. 14 May, 1834, æ. 65. *Ch. (from Mrs. Stiles's MS.; bp. C. R.):*

1. Elisha Loring, b. 5 Dec., 1791, bp. 28 May, 1792. FAM. 33.
2. Francis, b. 27 June, bp. 10 July, 1793. FAM. 34.
3. Mary J., b. 20 Jan., 1799; m. Wm. **Judson** of Plymouth, Conn. *Issue:*
   1. Elizabeth, m. a **Gross**; 1 ch.
   2. Mary, m. a **Smith** of Stonington, Conn.; 1 ch.; res. Willimantic, Conn.
   3. Hiram, res. (1874) Plymouth.
   4. William; he and wife d. at P.
   5. Joseph, res. Plymouth.
4. Timothy Elmer, bp. 28 Jan., 1805 — *E. W. C. R.*; m. twice; 2 s.; 1 dau.; d. N. Htfd.
5. Fanny, bp. 20 and d. 27 Aug., 1795 (*E. W. C. R*), æ. 6 mo. 5 days.

(*E. W. C. R.* give Anson, a ch. bp. 27 May, 1792, and Naomi, bp. 20 Jan., 1799.

FAM. 24. **Samuel**[6] (*Samuel,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Sam'l,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), taught school for 45 consecutive winters; farmed in summers; bo't his father's farm, subject to his father's endorsements for Fitch, of steamboat fame, when about 21, and finally paid them all, and retained the farm; m. Sally (dau. Joseph) **Hosmer** of So. W.; he d. 10 Jan., 1864, æ. 81, at Htfd.; she d. So. W., 19 Sept., 1838, æ. 58. *Ch. (Mrs. Stiles's MS.; bp. fm. E. W. C. R.):*

1. Jane Jerusha, b. Feb.; d. 8 Sept., 1803.
2. James, b. and d. 1805.*
3. Charlotte Sophia, b. 5 July, bp. 2 Nov., 1806; m. Hiram **Pierce** of Plymouth, Conn.; she d. 5 June, 1845; 3 s.; 2 daus.
4. Theodosia Maria, b. 2 Apl., bp. 24 July, 1808; m. Buckley P. **Heath** of W. Pt., 8 Dec., 1829; she d. So. W., 9 Apl., 1836, æ. 28. *Issue:*
   1. Mary A., m. Elisha **Williams**.
5. Samuel, b. 4 June, bp. 7 Oct., 1810; m. Mary B. **Smith** of Berlin, Conn.; res. Htfd.; had:
   1. Samuel, m. Mary **Camp** of H. and had s. Samuel Harrison Smith.
6. Joseph Hosmer, b. 22 Sept., 1812, bp. 7 Mch., 1813; m. Emily J. **Adams**, b. Andover, Mass. (dau. John, for many yrs. prin. of Phillips Acad. at A.); res. Jacksonville, Ill. *Issue (Mrs. Stiles's MS.):*
   1. ——, and } twins.
   2. John A., }
   3. Emily A., d. æ. 4 yrs.
   4. Joseph H., d. æ. 4 mos.
   5. William Ripley, living.
7. Harriet, b 16 Jan., bp. 28 May, 1815 (*R.D.*); d. 2 Mch., 1818.
8. Horace, b. 4 Dec., 1817, bp. 19 Apl., 1818; m. (1) Frances A. **Hunt**, 1852, of Jacksonville, Ill., where he was sett., who d. July, 1859; no issue: m. (2) Elizabeth **Root** of N. Haven, by whom he had:
   1. Fanny C., b. 25 Dec., 1858. | 2. Herbert.
9. William, m. Harriet N. **Hosmer**.
10. Harriet F., m. Henry L. (s. Harvey) **Elmer** of So. W. and 12 May, 1843, æ. 24. *Issue*, see *Elmer*.

FAM. 25. **James**[6] (*Thos.,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Samuel,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), m. 24 Jan., 1800, Marcia **Levering**, b. 1 Mch., 1781, at Holliston, Mass; he d. 10 Apl., 1870, æ. 91 yrs., 7 mos.; she d. 23 Apl., 1870; when a lad he was waiter to Col. Wadsworth of Hartford, then a member of Congress at Philadelphia. *Ch.:*

1. Marcia, b. 2 July, 1802; m. (1) Rev. Allen **Hoyt** (Bap.), b. Cheshire, Conn., 2 Sept., 1822 — *R.D.;* res. at Springfield and W. Boylston, Mass., where he d., s. p.; she m. (2) (2 yrs. after Mr. H.'s death), Rev. Russell **Jennings** (Bap.), b. Weston (now Easton); sett. Sayville Soc. (now Winthrop), Saybrook, Conn.; next at Meriden, Conn.; then at Newton, Mass.; grad. there and rem. to Waterbury, Conn., and Deep River; retired from pastoral work; was an inventor and a man of large means; he d. 8 Mch., 1888. Mrs. Maria (Bancroft-Hoyt) Jennings, d. 25 Oct., 1874, æ. 74. *Issue*, by name of *Jennings:*
   1. Charles Russell, b. Meriden, Conn.; d. single, Deep River, 1859, æ. 28.
   2. Harriet N., m. Henry L. **Shailer** of D. R., and d. less than yr. after m., 1863, æ. 28.
2. Olive, b. 8 Aug., 1803; d. sudd. 29 Nov., 1825, æ. 22; um'd.
3. Thomas L., b. 24 Apl., 1805. FAM. 35.
4. James, b. 10 Nov., 1806. FAM. 36.
5. Alona, b. 17 Oct., 1808; m. 16 Apl., 1829, Valorous **Hall** of Manchester, Conn.; d. Alleghany Co., N. Y., 23 May, 1839. *Issue:*
   1. George, b. M.; m.; 2 ch.; res. Ill.
   2. James B., b. Allen, N. Y.
6. Abigail, b. 9 Jan., 1810; m. Robert **Alexander**, Jr., of So. W.; d. 21 Nov., 1842, at E. W., æ. 33; *s. p.*
7. Lydia M., b. 12 Mch., 1813; m. Roderick **Spencer** of Htfd.; rem. to Madison, N. Y. *Issue:*
   1. Lucius, m. Susan ——; res. M. and at Oberlin, O.; had (*a*) Anna, grad. Oberlin Coll.; teacher in Texas; m. and d. Selma, Ala.; *s. p.*
   2. Leverett (deaf and dumb); m. twice; both wives d. and d.
   3. Roderick; res. Iowa; m. Mrs. Lydia **Bancroft.**
8. William, b. 29 Mch., 1816; m. an **Hosmer;** res. Springfield, Erie Co., Pa.; later res. at Columbia Ranch, Neilsburg, Cal.; after a divorce, Mrs. B. m. H. N. **Dickinson;** she was a niece of Sally Hosmer, wife of Sam'l Bancroft.
9. Harriet F., b. 9 Sept., 1818; d. 12 May, 1843; m. Harry L. **Elmer** of So. W., 12 Jan., 1840; d. 12 May, 1843.

FAM. 26. **Horace**[7] (*Ephm.,*[6] *Ephm.,*[5] *Ephm.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), b. Torrington, 30 Sept., 1791; d. 10 Oct., 1839; farmer; res. in homestead; m. Damaris P. **Thompson** of Mansfield, Conn.; b. Aug., 1798; res. 1869 at Goshen, Conn. *Ch.:*

1. Heloise, } twins, { d. 1847, æ. 25.
2. Helen, } twins, { d. æ. 4½ yrs.
3. Mahlon Wing, b. 4 Sept., 1827; d. 17 Sept., 1852, æ. 25; was student of medicine.
4. Horace, Jr., b. 9 Dec., 1830; d. 12 Apl., 1864; m. 13 Sept., 1858, Elizabeth **Beach** of Goshen, Conn.; she d. 1862.

(This family all died of consumption.)

FAM. 27. **Dyar**[7] [Noadiah] (*Noadiah,*[6] *Ephm.,*[5] *Ephm.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), b. Torrington, Ct., 12 Apl., 1786; d. 13 Sept., 1866; ent. Yale 1805; grad. Wms. 1809; was tutor 2 yrs.; adm. to bar, Lenox, Mass., 1813; began practice at Chesterfield, Mass., 1814, where he res.; P. M. 20 yrs.; J. of P. 50 yrs.; Justice of the Quorum; Co. commissioner; 12 yrs. memb. State Leg.; in 1834 his sight began to fail and he had to limit his practice to counsel only; m. 25 May, 1815, Sally (dau. Rutherford and Chloe) **Hayes** of W. Brattleboro, Vt., b. 11 Apl., 1793. *Ch.:*

1. Helen, b. 12 Aug., 1816; m. 26 Mch., 1835, Hazelton **Walkley** of Htfd., Conn.; rem. N. Y. city 1840; 2 s.; 3 daus.
2. Talcott, b. 24 Dec., 1821; res. Chesterfield, Mass.; enl. Co. D, 37 Mass. Vols., Aug. 30, '62; must. out 21 June, '65.
3. William, b. 8 Oct., 1824; m. Julia Ann (dau. Henry and Harriet *Hayes*) **Trowbridge** of New Haven; 3 ch.; res. many yrs. in N. Y.; ret. to Chesterfield.
4. Edward, b. Chesterfield, 8 Dec., 1830.

FAM. 28. **Dr. Rulandus**[7] (*Oliver,*[6] *Ephm.,*[5] *Ephm.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), b. Newtown, Conn., 23 June, 1785; studied medicine with his father; began practice early; rem. to Elmira, N. Y., abt. 1811–12; living in 1868, retired from practice; m. Harriet **Hazard** of New London, Conn., a cousin of Commodore Oliver H. Perry, the hero of Lake Erie; she d. Dec., 1863. *Ch.:*

1. Elizabeth O.
2. Harriet.
3. LeGrand, b. Elmira, N. Y., 17 July, 1819; lawyer; res. Albany, N. Y.; m. Emeline **Randall** of A., 17 June, 1845. *Issue:*
   1. Harriet M., b. 21 Feb., 1851.
   2. Jennie, b. 26 May, 1856.
4. George W., res. California; um'd.
5. Esther, m. Judge H. H. **Harmon** of Howell, Mich.

FAM. 29. **Isaac**[7] (*Isaac,*[6] *Isaac,*[5] *Ephm.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), b. abt. 1765–7; m. Lovicia **Bissell** (dau. Wm. and Jemima), b. 25 Dec., 1772; res. E. W. *Ch.:*

1. Chauncey, b. 31 Mch., 1795; m. æ. 64, 5 Jan., 1860, Julia R. **Wolcott**, æ. 36; farmer; W. Pt., E. W. *Issue:*
   1. Isaac, b. 11 Sept., 1861.
2. Bissell, b. 2 June, 1801. FAM. 37.
3. William, b. 8 Nov., 1805; m. 7 Feb., 1832, Caroline B. (dau. Jabez, s. of Stephen) **Heath;** farmer, W. Pt. *Issue:*
   1. Cecelia B., b. 2 Mch., 1833; m. Jos. **Barber** of E. W., 1852.
   2. Mahlon H., (Judge,) b. 17 Oct., 1837; educa. Wilbraham Acad.; bef. July, 1876, was teacher and for 8 yrs. prin. of the W. Pt. Gram. Sch.; has been one of Bd. of school visitors for E. W. for over 20 yrs.; Justice of the peace, July 4, 1872-Mch. 4, 1881; town clerk and treas. of E. W., Oct., 1874-present time; Judge of Prob., Dist. of E. W., 4 July, 1876, to present; res. W. Pt.; m. 27 June, 1862, Mary S. (dau. Thos. D. and Salome *Noyes*) **Richards** of Roxbury, Mass. *Issue:* (*a*) Mary L.; (*b*) Hattie C., dec'd; (*c*) Lottie B.
4. Willard Hall, b. 14 July, 1809; bp. 4 Mch., 1810 — *S. B.;* farmer; m. Eliza Ann **Moreton**, 1844. *Issue:*
   1. Edwin Hall, b. 18 June, 1844.
   2. Helen Lavona, b. 23 June, 1846.
   3. Theresa Maria, b. 16 May, 1853.
5. Lovicia, d. um'd.

FAM. 30. **John**[7] (*John,*[6] *Dea. John,*[5] *Thos.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), m. 15 Apl., 1818 (*S. B.*), Cleopatra (one acc. says *Cleona*) **Pasco**, dau. Jona. and Elizabeth *Allen* Pasco; was capt. of a whaler; never ret. from a voyage in 1842. *Ch.:*

1. Henry, b. 1814; m. Julia (dau. Levi) **Lord** of E. W.
2. Elizabeth, b. 1816; m. Jas. **Ellis** of E. W.
3. Charles, b. 1822; d. hospital, in Union service, war of Civil Rebell.; um'd.
4. Mary, b. 1826; m. Adolphus **Whittaker** of Westfield, Mass.
5. Lucinda, b. 1828; m. a **Bement**.
6. Albert, b. 1830; rem. to Ark.; um'd.

FAM. 31. **Caleb Jones**[7] (*John,*[6] *Dea. John,*[5] *Thos.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), b. E. W. 19 Sept., 1804; farmer, Enf.; rem. to Huntington, L. I.; m. (1) 5 Oct., 1831, Chloe (dau. Nath'l) **Wolcott** of E. W. — *S. B.*, who d. 8 May, 1861, æ. 53; (2) 6 May, 1865, Mrs. Susan **Tillson**. *Ch.:*

1. Anna, b. 28 July, 1832; m. H. E. **Simmons**, Nov., 1858; he sec. Mut. Benefit Life Assoc. of Am., N. Y. city; res. Summit, N. J.; was a soldier in the war of the Civil Rebell.
2. Frederick J. (M.D.), b. 1834. FAM. 38.
3. Clarissa B., b. 1836; m. Edwin **Hedges**, 1858; res. Westfield, Mass.
4. Ellen Loomis, b. 1838; m. James V. **Strickland**; res. Windsor, Conn.; 2 children.
5. Francis R., b. 1841; d. 1842.
6. Francis R., b. 1843; d. 1843.
7. Emma Adalette, b. 1845; m. 19 Feb., 1872, Dr. W. B. **Dunning**; res. Hartford; 5 children.
8. Julia Aletha, b. 1850, Granby, Conn.; m. 24 Nov., 1873, Chas. T. **Goodrich**; res. S'hampt'n, Mass.

FAM. 32. **Horace**[7] (*Thos.,*[6] *Edw.,*[5] *Thos.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), b. and res. E. W.; m. 1 Nov., 1835, Cynthia Gilbert (dau. Calvin) **Munsell**, and wid. of Royal **Slater**; she d. 19 Jan., 1866. *Ch.:*

1. Horace Edward, b. 6 Aug., 1836; d. 16 Mch., 1837.
2. Julia Amarette, b. 10 Oct., 1837; m. Alvin **Pease** of Enf., 14 Sept., 1856; 7 ch.
3. Frances Emily, b. 19 Feb., 1841; m. Ralph R. **Reed**, 29 Nov., 1866; 3 ch.
4. James Monroe, b. 17 Aug., 1842; d. 24 Sept., 1843.
5. Persis Allenah, b. 14 Oct., 1846; um'd.

FAM. 33. **Elisha Loren**[7] (*Anson,*[6] *Samuel,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Samuel,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), built a ho. next N. of his father's abt. 1815 and kept store; m. 29 Nov., 1818, Wid. Mary **Clark**; he d. 22 Feb., 1871, at Htfd. *Ch. (from Mrs. Stiles's MS.):*

1. Caroline, m. Alvin **Squires**; res. Hfd.; *Issue:*
   1. Mary, m. a **Bonham**; res. H.; 1 ch.
   2. Charles.
   3. Elisha.
   4. Albert, d. yg.
2. Elizabeth, m. Fred. **Taylor**, So. W.; had:
   1. Frederick; res. Colchester.
3. Alonzo, d. inf.

FAM. 34. **Francis**[7] (*Anson,*[6] *Samuel,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Samuel,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), m. (1) 1 June, 1816, Minerva (dau. David) **Pritchard** of Waterbury, Conn., who d. 16 Apl., 1839, æ. 41; (2) 11 Apl., 1844, Julia Ann **Pinney** of So. W., b. in W. 1808 (dau. Dan'l and Huldah), who d. 21 Sept., 1852, æ. 44; (3) Jane Ann **Wait**, 24 Nov., 1853 (*S. B.*), of E. W., b. N. J., who d. 3 Oct., 1872, æ. 50. He d. 28 Aug., 1872. *Ch. (by 1st mar.):*

1. Mary Ann, b. 21 Feb., 1817; d. 6 Sept., 1830, æ. 14.
2. Edward Anson, b. 14 Feb., 1819. FAM. 39.
3. Harriet Newell, b. 29 Dec., 1820; bp. 3 July, 1833; m. 15 Jan., 1843, Henry H. **Wildman** of Htfd. (b. Danbury); rem. to Providence, R.I.; he d. in civil war; had: (1) *Charles H.*, d. unmarried. (2) *Francis B.*; both in N.Y. city in bus. '71; m.; d.; Mrs. Wildman d. June, 1888.
4. Frances Juliet, b. 9 Aug., 1823; d. 3 Feb., 1826.
5. Frances Juliet, b. 21 Oct., 1825; m. Ed. C. **Rockwell**, S. W. (s. Nath'l).
6. Theodore Elmer, b. 9 May, 1827. FAM. 40.
7. Sarah Pritchard, b. 6 Sept., 1829; m. Mch., 1858, Rev. James T. **Ford**, then pastor of Cong. ch., Stowe, Vt.; after 13 yrs. there, went to Charleston, S. C., where they res. '71; *s. p.*
8. David Pritchard, b. 11 July, 1831. FAM. 41.
9. Elizur Edwin, b. 21 Oct., 1834. FAM. 42.
10. George Whitfield, b. 15 Oct., 1836. FAM. 43.
11. Harry Smith, b. 10 Mch., 1839; d. 18 Feb., 1852, æ. 13.

By 2d. mar.:

12. Julia Minerva, b. 21 Aug., d. 4 Sept., 1849, æ. 13 d.
13. Henry Wallace, b. 3 Sept., 1851; d. 13 Oct., 1872, æ. 21 yrs. (*Mrs. Stiles's MS.*)

FAM. 35. **Thomas L.**[7] (*James,*[6] *Thos.,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Sam'l,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), m. Clarissa Ann (dau. Nathan) **Porter** of E. H.; res. awhile in E. W.; rem. to Conneaut, Ohio; d. 24 Dec., 1866. *Children:*

1. Olive, d. So. W. 22 May, 1829, æ. 1 yr. 3 mos. 15 d.
2. Lydia M., b. and d. So. W.
3. Adoniram J., b. So. W. 16 Apl., 1830; was in War of Civil Rebell.; d. at Frederick City, Md.; left widow; *s. p.*
4. Thomas P., b. So. W.; m. Jane **Fogg** of Springfield, Pa.; sett. Conneaut, O.; ch.; eldest, Louisa.
5. Alfred, b. So. W.; res. Ashtabula Co., Ohio.
6. Mary, m. Eli **Calkins**; res. Ashtabula Co., O. [2 ch.
7. William, res. Conneaut, Ohio.

FAM. 36. **James**[7] (*James,*[6] *Thos.,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Sam'l,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), m. 27 Sept., 1828, Minerva **Porter**, b. 21 Feb., 1806, Agawam, Mass.; sett. Lee, Mass.; rem. to So. W., then to Springfield, Erie Co., Pa.; back to So. W., then to E. Htfd. He d. 3 Dec., 1883. *Ch. (3 eld. b. So. W.; the others at Springfield, Pa.):*

AD-10

1. Frances Minerva, b. 8 Feb., 1830; m. 20 Apl., 1854, Hamilton T. **Evans** of Htfd. *Issue:*
   1. William. | 2. Harriet L. | 3. Minnie. | 4. Jas. A.
2. James, b. 27 May, 1833; d. 2 Mch., 1835.
3. Emma King, b. 27 Jan., 1837; m. Henry Lea **Pinney** (s. Ebenezer) of So. W., 10 Dec., 1863; rem. to Los Angeles, Cal.
4. Julia Ann, b. 3 July, d. 16 Sept., 1838.
5. Marcia L., b. 23 Feb., d. 29 Aug., 1842.
6. George W., b. 22 Feb., 1844. Fam. 44.
7. Russell J., b. 1 Aug., d. 19 Sept., 1846.

Fam. 37. **Bissell**[8] (*Isaac,*[7] *Isaac,*[6] *Isaac,*[5] *Ephr'm,*[4] *Ephr'm,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]), b. 2 June, 1801; farmer; d. 18 Dec., 1864; m. Joanna **Morton**, 24 Mch., 1824 (*S.B.*); she b. 28 Nov., 1805; living 1872. *Children:*

1. Horace Milton, b. E. W. 8 June, 1826; farmer; m. Mary Ann **Phelps** of Enf. 25 Jan., 1853. *Issue:*
   1. Emory, b. 12 Dec., 1854, d. 20 Oct., 1867.
   2. Mary Emma, b. 27 Apl., 1859.
   3. Ida Stevens, b. 25 Nov., 1866.
2. Willard Bissell, b. 19 Oct., 1827; m. Asenath **Birdsey**; farmer, Enf.
3. Emory O., b. 18 Feb., d. 23 Sept., 1829.—*S. B.*
4. Emory Orville, b. 4 Mch., 1831; m. (1) Frances **Jones**, who d. 12 Apl., 1859; (2) Virginia A. **Tucker**, 4 May, 1867; *issue:* dau. b. 9 Aug., 1869: (they were div.) Mr. E. is a farmer, W. Pt.; enl. 3d Mass. H. Art., 10 Feb., 1864.
5. Rosina Lovisa, b. 20 July, 1832; d. 30 Apl., 1852.
6. Emily Ruth, b. 29 Sept., 1835.
7. Alex. Morton, b. 13 Nov., 1836; m. Eleanor **Babcock**, 8 May, 1860; kept store at W. Pt. and ('71) Woodstock Valley, Conn.
8. Joanna Amanda, b. 13 June, 1838.
9. Ellen Lovina, b. 12 Feb., d. 3 Aug., 1844.—*S. B.*
10. Ellen Lovina, b. 24 June, d. 8 Aug., 1845.

Fam. 38. **Frederick Jones**[8] (*Caleb Jones,*[7] *Dea. John,*[6] *John,*[5] *Thos.,*[4] *Ephm.,*[3] *John,*[2] *John*[1]) (M.D.), b. Enfield, Conn., 25 May, 1834; educated Westfield (Mass.) Academy and Charlotteville (N. Y.) Seminary, and, securing his education by his own efforts, graduated Feb., 1861, from the Medical Department of the University of Buffalo, N. Y. In October of the same year he entered the army, and was immediately placed in charge of the "Church Hospital," Harrisburg, Pa. Early in the spring of 1862, was assigned to the 76th Penn. Vols. at Hilton Head; in May, took medical charge of the forces at Pinckney Island, Seabrook, and Elliott's Plantations, S. C., and was present at the bombardment of Ft. Pulaski and the attack on Charleston. In September, 1862, he was sent to New York in charge of a party of invalids of the 7th New Hampshire Vols., and was engaged as Examining Surgeon of recruits at Philadelphia until early spring of 1863, when he was ordered to fit up a hospital for the accommodation of Confederate prisoners at Ft. Delaware, Del., and then rejoined his regiment, the 3d Penn. Artill., May, 1863. In June he was assigned to Fortress Monroe as Post Surgeon, and remained until he left the service at the close of the war, in December, 1865. Returning to Philadelphia, he attended the lectures at the University of Pennsylvania in 1865–66, and June 1, 1866, he settled in Denver, Colorado. His practice is general, though largely surgical.

Dr. Bancroft has been associated with many enterprises and organizations. He is a member of the Denver Medical Society, and its president in 1868; of the Colorado Medical Society, and its president in 1879; of the American Public Health Association; the American Medical Association; and a vice-president of the National Association of Railway Surgeons. From 1868 to 1885 he held the office of Examining Surgeon for pensions; was city physician of Denver from 1872 to '76, and from 1876 to '79. In 1876 Governor Routt appointed him president of the new State Board of Health. He was surgeon of the Ben Holladay stage lines running out of Denver from 1860 to '70; from 1870 to '76 he was surgeon of the Kansas Pacific, and Denver Pacific Railroads, and of the Denver & Rio Grande from its construction in 1870 till 1886. As chief surgeon of this important road, he organized a medical service which was described in the *American Railway Journal* of January, 1886, as "the most efficient in the United States." The plans and regulations for the hospital fund are exceedingly careful and comprehensive, protecting the fund from all outside infringements, and reserving the surplus moneys for pensioning disabled employes and the needy families of deceased contributors to the fund.

A peculiar feature of this service is the provision of a medicine chest, to be in charge of the conductor of every train, containing a full equipment of the medicines and surgical adjuncts which would be immediately needed in case of railway accidents, accompanied by printed directions, and illustrated by cuts. He now holds the Chair of Fractures and Dislocations in the medical department of the University of Denver.

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From 1874 to 1876 he was president of the Denver Board of Education; for years a member of the standing committee of the Missionary Jurisdiction of Colorado, and a trustee of Wolfe Hall, of Jarvis Hall, and of St. Luke's Hospital; also president of the Agricultural Ditch Company for the first ten years after its construction, and has a large and valuable ranch under irrigation by its waters.

He is medical referee for several of the largest life insurance companies of New York and New Jersey, and president (since its organization in 1877) of the Colorado Hist. and Nat. Hist. Soc. In short, Dr. B. is a large-hearted, active, "brainy" man; a good sample of the best New England stock of ancestry, grafted upon Western civilization and experiences. He married 20 June, 1871, Mary Caroline (dau. of Geo. A.) **Jarvis**, of Brooklyn, N. Y. *Ch.:*

1. Mary McLean, b. 23 Apl., 1872.
2. George Jarvis, b. 10 Sept., 1873; is (1891) student at Leland Stanford, Jr., University, California.
3. Anna Chloe, b. 13 Sept., 1875; d.
4. Frederick Wolcott, b. 26 July, 1880.

FAM. 39. **Edward Anson**[8] (*Francis,*[7] *Anson,*[6] *Sam'l,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Sam'l,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), m. (1) 15 Dec., 1842, Mary E. (dau Festus) **Hayden** of Waterbury, Conn.; owned the Dea. Abner Reed place, So. W., and sold it to Cong'l Soc for parsonage; he d. S. W. 25 Apl., 1860; wid. and ch. rem. to Waterbury. *Children:*

1. Helen Minerva, b. 24 Dec., 1843; d. 11 Mch., 1850.
2. James Hayden, b. 27 June, 1845; d. 4 Apl., 1850.
3. Alice Elizabeth, b. 5 May, 1848; d. 25 Apl., 1850.
4. Mary Ellen, b. 22 Sept., 1849; m. (1) Aaron **Benedict** of W'bury; afterwards m. twice.
5. James Hayden, b. 26 Oct., 1852.
6. Festus Francis, b. 2 Feb., 1857; m.; d. N. Y. 1888.
7. Alice H., b. 26 Dec., 1858; unm'd (1889)
8. Kate C., b. 1 Sept. 1860; d. 18 Aug., 1863.

FAM. 40. **Theodore Elmer**[8] (*Francis,*[7] *Anson,*[6] *Sam'l,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Sam'l,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), m. 8 June, 1853, Elizabeth E. (dau. Samuel and Lydia) **Moore**, E. W. Hill; sett. and res. on the John Watson place. *Children:*

1. Samuel Moore, b. 18 June, 1854. FAM. 45.
2. Addie Sophia, b. 23 Aug., 1856; d. 2 July, 1858.
3. Mary Stoughton, b. 22 Oct., 1859; d. 3 Sept., 1886.
4. Frank, b. 8 Aug., 1861.
5. David Pritchard (M.D.), b. 4 Sept., 1864; grad. Med. Dept. Univ. N. Y. City, 1889; d. E. W. Hill 1 Apl., 1891.
6. Harry Ford, b. 30 Aug., 1867.

FAM. 41. **David Pritchard**[8] (*Francis,*[7] *Anson,*[6] *Sam'l,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Sam'l,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), m. Mabel M. (dau. Christopher Helms) **Terry** of Enf.; rem. to E. H., where he d. Jan. 14, 1865; she b. 29 Jan., 1836; d. E. H. 20 Feb., 1875. *Ch.:*

1. Nellie Terry, b. 17 May, 1860; m. Harry Templeton; res. San Francisco.
2. Edith Sarah, b. 29 Dec., 1862; d. 25 Apl., 1864.
3. Edith Mabel (posthumous), b. Feb., 1865; res. 1891, San Francisco, unm'd.

FAM. 42. **Elizur Edwin**[8] (*Francis,*[7] *Anson,*[6] *Sam'l,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Sam'l,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), m. 7 May, 1868, Martha Naomi (dau. Edwin) **Birge**, b. 19 Aug., 1840. *Children:*

1. Arthur Clayton, b. 10 Nov., 1871.
2. Henry Wallace, b. 27 Nov., 1873.
3. Louis Elizur, b. 21 Dec., 1877.

FAM. 43. **Geo. Whitfield**[8] (*Francis,*[7] *Anson,*[6] *Sam'l,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Sam'l,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), m. Mary Amanda (dau. Francis and Martha *Lillibridge*) **Whiton** of Willington, Conn., 16 Nov., 1869; res. E. W. Hill. *Children:*

1. Olin Francis, b. 26 Nov., 1870.
2. Edward Anson, b. 22 Aug., 1872.
3. Paul Chadbourne, b. 30 Aug., 1874.
4. George Ford, b. 14 Oct., 1876.
5. Burdette Whiton, b. 15 June, 1879.
6. Mary Whiton, b. 20 June, 1881.
7. Benjamin Lillibridge, b. 4 Mch., 1883
8. Noah Porter, b. 9 Jan., 1887, d. 13 Apl., 1889.
9. Minerva 1890.
10. Thomas 1891.

FAM. 44. **George W.**[8] (*James,*[7] *James,*[6] *Thos.,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Sam'l,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), m. Viola **Hills**, 20 May, 1874. *Children:*

1. Minerva M., b. 6 June, 1875.
2. James W., b. 23 Dec., 1876.
3. Ida F., b. 1 Feb., 1883.
4. Emma V., b. 22 Jan., 1886.
5. Rose M., b. 21 Feb., 1889.

FAM. 45. **Sam'l Moore**[9] (*Theo. E.,*[8] *Francis,*[7] *Anson,*[6] *Sam'l,*[5] *Nath'l,*[4] *Sam'l,*[3] *Thos.,*[2] *John*[1]), m. 14 Apl., 1880, Mary Lee **Ford** (dau. Geo.) of Glastonbury, Conn. *Ch.:*

1. Muriel Agnes, b. 6 Dec., 1883.
2. Lizzie Boylston, b. 18 Nov., 1885; d. 6 Aug., 1887.

List of Samuel Bancroft's Children from Chittenden V.R.

A List of Samuel Bancroft's Children.

~~Seneca Born July 28th 1805~~

~~John Westly born Feb 1809~~

Seneca Bancroft was born February 6th 1801

Samuel Born July 28th ——— 1805

John Westly born February 1th 1807

Mary Bancroft was born Sept 1st 1809

John Bancroft was born Sept 28th 1811

Ruth Harriby was born Feby 10th 1816

Amelia Bancroft born 1820

Recorded May 12th 1821.

Attest Wm H Kneeland Clerk

I have not determined if or how this family is related to us PMB

Contemporary with our David III

Recorded the above deed - John Cowen, Town Clerk.

Know all Men by these presents that we John Bancroft, Samuel Bacroft and Robert Mayson (Mason) all of Philadelphia in the County of Rutland and State of Vermont for and in consideration of the sum of fifty dollars paid by Ennos & Nathaniel Bancroft of Chittendon, the County and State above mentioned, we accept thereof we do hereby jointly and severally acknowledge have remised, released & forever quit claimed and do by these presents remis, release and forever quit claim unto the said Ennos & Nathaniel Bancroft, their heirs and assigns forever all our right title interest that is in Law or Equity ever had or now have to the estate of our honored father John Bancroft late of chittenden deceased to have and to hold the same with all the privilege and appertenances --------- belonging to them, the said Enus and Nathaniel their heirs and assigns forever in witness whereof we have herein to set our hands and seal this 15th day of December 1809.

John Bancroft, seal
Samuel Bancroft, seal
Robert Mayson seal

in the presence of

Phinehan Blood
Nathan Bolit
Samuel Bancroft

Chittendon January 18th 1810
State of Vermont
Rutland County, Vt. Then John Bancroft personally appeared and acknowledged the instrument to be his voluntary act and seal before me,
Samuel Cooley, Jus. Peace.

Sept. 15th 1810
Recorded the above deed
Jogn Cowen Town Clerk

Ad 31

V.R. recorded in Chittenden, Vt. town, Rutland Co. Vt.

John Bancroft was August 29th 1771

Marcy Bancroft wife of John Bancroft was Born Feby 28th 1763 —

Polly Bancroft Daughter of John & Marcy Bancroft was Born Decr 19th 1795 —

Joseph Mason Bancroft Son of John & Marcy Bancroft was Born April 23d 1797 —

Joseph M. Bancroft Son of John & Marcy Bancroft was Born July 31st 1798 —

Prudey Bancroft ~~was Born~~ Daughter of John and Marcy Bancroft was Born April 3 - 1800 —

Eunice Bancroft Daughter of John & Marcy Bancroft was Born March 28th 1802 —

Joseph Mason Bancroft Son of John and Marcy Bancroft Departed this Life May 7th - 1799

Joseph M. Bancroft Son of John & Marcy Bancroft Departed this Life February 2d - 1799

Recorded March 16th 1813 —

Attest Wm Manley Town Clerk

John Lowe Town Clerk

Know all Men by these presents that we John Bancroft Samuel Bancroft and Robert Mayson all of Philadelphia in the County of Rutland and state of Vermont for and in consideration of the sum of Fifty Dollars paid by Lunas & Nathaniel Bancroft of Chittenden the County & State abovementioned the receipt whereof we do hereby jointly & severally acknowledge have remised released & forever quit claimed and do by these presents Remise Release & forever quit claim unto the said Lunas & Nath.l Bancroft their heirs & assigns forever all our Right title interest that we in Law or Equity Ever had or now have to the Estate of our honored Father John Bancroft late of Chittenden Deceased To have and to hold the same with all the priveledge and appurtenances thereunto belonging to them the said Lunas & Nathaniel their heirs and assigns forever in witness whereof we have hereunto set our ~~hands~~ and seals this 15th Day of December 1809

in presence of

Phineher Blood
Nathan Balch
Samuel Bancroft

John Bancroft seal
Sam.l Bancroft seal
Robert Mayson seal

Chittenden January 15th 1810
State of Vermont
Rutland County ss Than John Bancroft personally appeared and acknowledged the aforegoing instrument to be his voluntary act & deed
Before me
Sam.l Cooley Jus. Peace

Sept. 15th 1810
Recorded the above deed
John Lowe Town Clerk

Robert Mayson (Mason)

[illegible] S 25 deg W 10 chs thence S. 11 deg W. 27 chs & 50 L. falling in at the angle of the road leading through mile square No 511 in a northwesterly direction to Coles-ville 10 April 1822.

Harry Martin Surveyor

We the subscribers commissioners of highways of the Town of Colesville having examined the above described road do order the same to be recorded as a public highway — —

Amos Smith } Commissioners
Daniel Sanford } of Highways
Daniel Sanford Jr. Clerk

A record of the survey of a public highway — Beginning in the highway 59 rods north of the middle of Lot No 96 in Melancton Smiths Patent thence running S. 83 deg E. 42 chs and 50 L. thence N. 11 deg E. 11 chs and 50 L thence N. 61 deg E. 14 chs and 25 L thence N. 83 deg E. 31 chs. thence N. 70 deg E. 5 chs thence N. 72 deg E 3 chs and 75 L thence N 60 deg E. 5 chs thence N 40 deg E. 4 chs falling into the road leading from Lemuel Badgers by Ezra Pratts at the place where said road crosses the brook near the northeast corner of Lot No 95 in the above mentioned patent — Harry Martin Sur. Colesville 20 March 1822 — —

We the subscribers commissioners [illegible]

Broome County }
Town of Colesville } ss

Whereas a vacancy
No 6) has occurred in the office of
Overseer of Highways for road dist
No 6) in said town by reason
of the refusal to serve of David
Watrous, elected to said office
Now therefore We the undersigned
Commissioners of Highways of said
town do hereby appoint Henry
Pratt Overseer of Highways of and
for the said road district No 6)
in said town to fill the said
vacancy.

Given under our hand
this ninth day of March 1855

S. W. Hobbs
Alvin Holcomb Jr } Com of
James A. Chaffee } Highways.

Broome County }
Town of Colesville } ss

Whereas a vacancy
No 5 has occurred in the office of Over
of Highways for road District No 5
in said town by reason of the
refusal to serve of Peter Martin
Elected to said office.

Now
therefore We the undersigned
Commissioners of Highways of said
town do hereby appoint Sidney Sanborn
Overseer of Highways of and for
the said road District No 5
in said town to fill the said
vacancy

Given under our hands
this ninth day of March 1855

S. W. Hobbs } Com

March 10th

Even

Dear Aunt once more I attempt to address you through the silent motion of the pen Cousin Henry Houghton came down to our house a visiting yesterday he thought it best for Aron to go to school with him for the purpose of attending Mr Perkins School Mother thought it was very doubtful whether she could come down to Mountville or not Rather thought it was best for Aron to stay to uncle Wilsons until you wanted him to come to your house we have not Arons things fixed in very good style but we thought she would have time enough to fix them before the Summer School commenced I must close my hasty scrawl to a close by ascribing myself your most affectionate Niece Chloe M Potter Westfield

Cousin Henry this is to let you know that I have not forgotten you I suppose you have a fair sweetheart by this time you must give me an invitation to your wedding I will try to attend you must excuse my writing for it was done in haste give my best respects to Mrs Gibson tell him I want to see him I try much he must try to come and make me a visit next summer if he can give Bye H Birdsall Chloe M Potter

Westfield

Pa

1226

Mary Birdsall
Huntsville

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